

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER



It starts
and ends
with a handshake.

Cover-Letter
9.2.2004



Table of Contents

Welcome	Page 3
Campus Life	Page 7
Summer News Insert	Page A1
Academics	Page 21
Distractions	Page 27



A word to the already wise

You're probably a know-it-all. Hopkins is full of 'em.

Well at least the *News-Letter* is. Count the times we condescendingly refer to you as "dear freshman," and even "young grasshopper."

But seriously, although we are pretty smart, the only thing we've really got on you is experience.

We've seen things change in our time at Hopkins. We know what, if the chance presented itself, we would do differently, what we would do instead, and what we'd still do even though it turned out pretty badly.

Something we don't know, however, is you. You could be the stereotypical pre-med from New Jersey who, despite our urging, will not get off campus nearly enough and who will, at the same time, complain that there is nothing to do. You could be the all-too-common type that works too hard, plays too little and makes the rest of us feel bad that we can't keep up. Or you could do something different. You could be something Hopkins hasn't seen. And we kind of hope you are.

More than to preach to you, we hope to motivate you. To encourage

you to find your niche at Hopkins, but also to shake things up.

The thing is, we're actually jealous of you. Freshman year is, of course, a fresh start. It's an excuse to take risks, challenge yourself and prove that you can hack it on your own. It's a year full of unparalleled excitement, and we want you to take advantage.

Everyone's experience at Hopkins will be different. The ratio of love to hate varies by individual. What we're presenting to you are personal anecdotes and a lot of general consensus, but you certainly don't have to take our word. Hey, we don't even always agree with each other. Sorority life is not for every girl, not everyone will miss RoFo chicken, and some of us love our job at the Phonathon.

But no matter who you are and what you think of us, welcome and enjoy. Get a few laughs. Make a few terrified faces. Then put the Cover-Letter down. You've got a lot to do.

— Melissa Artnak
and Gina Callahan
Special Editions/Focus Editors





Go get 'em kiddos: making the most of the freshman experience

By Melissa Artnak

So you're finally here. After all the blood, sweat, and tears (admit it, it's more than just a trite saying when it comes to college applications) that culminated at the moment you tore open that coveted thick envelope, you are now an undergraduate at Johns Hopkins University. Congratulations.

Your bags are unpacked and it's finally sinking in now that you are miles away from home, separated from your family, lifelong friends, and the golden retriever you got for your seventh birthday. And that can be pretty scary at first.

In fact, you might be tempted to feverishly IM every one of your friends from home, spend hours on the phone with your old sweetheart, or even call mom and dad in an effort to cling on to the last threads of your high school security blanket. Though it is important to stay in contact with people from your past, it's even more important to step up and put yourself out there for what these next four (maybe five or six, if you're super lucky) years bring.

I'm sure you've been bombarded with helpful advice from, well, everyone about what to expect at college and how to survive and enjoy these first few years of pseudo-freedom. Well, add me to that list of wannabe Dr. Phils.

Unlike those relatives who forget the "s" in at least one part of your new school's name, I have recently been in the exact same place as you, perhaps even down to the room, if you've been blessed with one particular tiny AMR double with a freakishly warm climate year round and blinds that never seem to close properly. So please indulge this only child's one chance to play the role of experienced older sister as I let you in on a few precious nuggets of sophomore knowledge.

I'll start off with the social aspect of your new life here at Hopkins, since you're fresh out of Orientation Week and meeting new people is still one of the underlying themes of your every waking moment. Yes, it is a bit monotonous and tiring to go through surface-level introductions with an endless stream of people over the course

of a few days. Yes, you will probably forget 99 percent of these names a few seconds after you meet. Yes, you will awkwardly encounter these Orientation friends later in the year and not know whether or not to stop and say hello.

But keep in mind, this is most likely the only situation you'll experience in which there are over a thousand people who want to meet you and vice versa. Take advantage of this, put a big smile on your face, and go out there and schmooze, bucko. Somewhere in this sea of near strangers are a few people who will end up being your best friends and love interests (maybe drop the plural on this one, depending on your luck) over these next few years.

Another obvious yet incredibly important aspect of actually enjoying your time here is to pry yourself away from your computer, get out of your room and actually DO something.

Something other than the basic survival requirements, like studying and occasionally showing up to lectures.

Don't complacently become a lazy bum — join a student organization or two.

When you go to the Student Activities Fair tomorrow, sign up for anything that piques your interest. Sure, you'll get e-mails from random clubs all year long (I still know the latest information about billiards tournaments, even though I've played pool approximately 4.5 times my entire life), but you'll also end up finding a few groups that you really enjoy (like, ahem, the *News-Letter*).

Whichever one of the many -ings you prefer — volunteering, singing, writing, or, uh, soccer-ing, etc. — there's probably a group that suits your interest. If not, get really ambitious and start your own club, because there's probably a few other people here who share your love of extreme miniature golf or indie music.

Next up, the real reason you're all here — academics. The best piece of advice I can give here is never to procrastinate, even though we all end up doing it, no matter how self-destructive this practice is. Chugging coffee and staying up until the wee hours of the morning to get all your work done is not just bad for your GPA, it also temporarily ruins your skin and your sanity.



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

Ready? Set? Cram everything you own into a cart and shove it in an AMR double.

At the risk of sounding a little motherly, my suggestion is to save yourself a lot of stress and start things at least a little early, even if it's just a few days. That way, while everyone else is pulling all-nighters the night before finals, you can be snoozing away, happily knowing that you've studied enough already.

Continuing with scholastic tips, force yourself to roll out of bed and show up at section, no matter how difficult it is to understand your TAs lectures. You'll probably be in many large classes this year, and section is the place to ask for help and befriend your TA, who will probably be the one grading you.

The TAs will remember seeing your smiling, albeit tired, face every Thursday morning, when the end of the semester comes. Don't worry about appearing to be a suck-up to your fellow classmates, because chances are, after the first few weeks, you'll be one of four people

in the classroom — assuming section attendance isn't mandatory.

My final suggestion for making the most of freshman year (and the rest of your time at Hopkins, for that matter) is to take some risks. Not walking-the-streets-of-Baltimore-past-early-evening-alone kind of risks, but more like personal challenges to help yourself mature and learn out of the classroom.

Depending on your personality, these risks might be anything from making the first move with that hottie from section (maybe you break the ice by offering that attractive stranger a copy of the *News-Letter*, since obviously you both read this article) to trying out for a performing arts group on campus to attending rush events for Greek life.

Whenever you force yourself out of your usual comfort zone, you're guaranteed to learn something about yourself in the process and grow up just a little bit more, which is the point of going to college (besides getting in to med school, right?).

So enjoy this newfound freedom at college. Freshman year really flies by, so get out there, have lots of fun, finish some schoolwork, and you'll be okay.

WELCOME
N-L

Though it is important to stay in contact with people from your past, it's even more important to step up and put yourself out there.

Freshman funnies get sophomoric

By Matt Diamond

As one of the few surviving members of the Class of 2007, it is my pleasure to welcome this year's incoming freshmen to the Johns Hopkins University. I'm sure many of you have heard certain things about our school and may have certain expectations.

For instance, you may have heard that our TAs don't speak English well, that our food is terrible, that there's nothing to do on campus, that the classes are unfairly graded, or that the student body is smart but incredibly apathetic and depressed. But not all of that is true. For example, our student body is overwhelmingly stupid.

Before I give you, as the French say, "le general overview of Hopkins," we'll start with a simple quiz.

- 1) Have you ever been to prison?
- 2) Have you ever eaten raw sewage?

If you answered "yes" to either of these questions, you may already have a general idea of the kind of food we have here at Hopkins. Johns Hopkins has two main cafeterias: Terrace and Wolman. Both of these are run by Sodexho, a food service company whose motto is probably something like, "Sodexho: A Masacre In Your Mouth."

Your best bet is to accumulate as many points as possible and eat at Megabytes, which is inside the AMR II building. Megabytes makes a lot of **tasty decent** edible food, which is a step up from everything else.

Just make sure not to "Mega-size" your order, which is Megabytes-speak for "buy more than you really need to, get fat, and die." Then again, maybe "getting fat and dying" is your current plan of action. In which case, you'd fit in well at Hopkins.

"Okay," you're thinking, "so the food is terrible. But what about access to hookers?" Well, I really can't tell you much about that. However, I CAN tell you about access to library materials. Here at Hopkins, the main library is the MSE library, a nice little building that sits at one end of the upper quad. You might be wondering how such a small building could hold a bazillion books (Yes, a bazillion ... I took Intro to Numbers, I know what I'm talking about).

Well the answer is simple: the library, instead of being built upward (a.k.a. toward the sky), was built downward (a.k.a. toward the Domain of Satan). That means that the majority of the library is underground. This is good news for those students who may be allergic to sunlight (I'm looking at you, BMEs).

But hey, the knowledge doesn't stop there. Johns Hopkins has a bunch of other libraries you can also use, including the Welch Medical Library, for those students who have the silly fantasy of becoming a doctor one day.

This library, however, is located on the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions campus. The JHMI campus is all the way over in East Baltimore, which is probably a good place for a medical institution, considering just how many people seem to get shot there.

But enough about libraries. You don't really care about those, do you, Class of 2008?

No, what you REALLY want to know are the things that they didn't tell you on the tour, the things that only another student could tell you, a student who is brutally honest, a student who is passionate about the truth, a student who is ready to reveal the secrets of Johns Hopkins University, no matter how dark or disturbing they may be.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am totally not that student. So let's talk about housing instead!

As freshmen, there are a bunch of possible places you may be living: the AMRs, Buildings A and B, Wolman and McCoy, or the Hopkins Inn. Let's break this down:

AMRs

Pros: Good location on campus, very social.

Cons: No air conditioning, houses have names that sound like they were stolen from Harry Potter books (I mean, come on ... Griffins? Gildersleeves? What are you trying to pull here?).

Buildings A and B

Pros: Suite-style living, climate control, close proximity to culinary disaster zone known as Terrace.

Cons: Needs a more exciting building name, like one that ends in "plex" or "tron."

Wolman and McCoy

Pros: Yet more suite-style living, air conditioning, close proximity to culinary disaster zone known as Wolman.

Cons: Living with sophomores. Honestly, if you step out of line, we will kill you.

Whew, that was fun. Now it's time for me to skim briefly over a few more things which I'm too lazy to write about in detail:

Fraternities/Sororities

Johns Hopkins has a bunch of these. They have parties a lot, etc.

Professors

Johns Hopkins has a bunch of these. They talk a lot, etc.

Time Machines

Johns Hopkins has none of these. Or so they say.

And thus ends this mind-numbingly useless guide to Hopkins. I hope you had as much fun reading this article as I had writing it (and by "writing it" I mean "scribbling it on a dinner

napkin while in an altered state").

Seriously, if you have any further questions about Hopkins, contact me.

Especially if you figured out where to get those hookers.

Matt Diamond "forgot" to mention the "Death Lane" in this article, and can be contacted at PianoMattD@aol.com.

Hopkins: man behind the myth

By Brendan Schreiber

Well, it looks like you made it—through the college search, through the admissions process, through move-in day.

You made it to Hopkins. But now that you're here, you'd better know a little bit more about the school than just the average SAT score and how much higher your score is than those of all your friends. There are more important things to know, like why there's that extra "s" at the end of Johns, when the school was founded, and who was Johns Hopkins anyway?

With enough determination (and the five minutes it will take to read the following words), you, too, can acquire the know-how, the cerebral capacity, the savoir-faire to sit down to tea among a cluster of ultra-intellectuals and declare, "Why, yes, Johns Hopkins was a middle school dropout."

First things first: who was Johns Hopkins, and what's with the name?

Born in 1795, Johns Hopkins was actually the second in his family of the same name; his grandfather was the first. He came by the unusual moniker when his great-grandmother, Margaret Johns (whose father owned a 4,000-acre estate in Calvert County, Md.) married Gerard Hopkins in 1700. Combining their two surnames, they dubbed their son Johns Hopkins. The family, all Quakers, emancipated their slaves in 1807, so Hopkins subsequently ended his formal education and returned home at the age of 12

to maintain the family's farm with his family.

At 17, Hopkins left his home in Anne Arundel County to pursue a career in business at his uncle's grocery market in Baltimore.

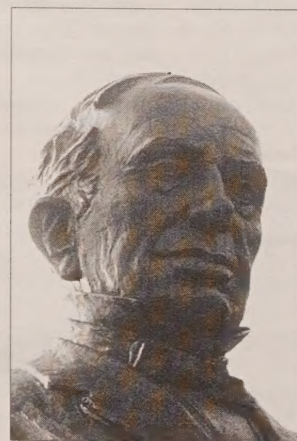
Quickly developing prodigious financial skills, he established his own mercantile house at 24 and accumulated profound wealth. Hopkins was one of the main investors in the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, the nation's first major railroad. His stock in the company fell behind only two investors: the State of Maryland and the City of Baltimore.

In 1867, Hopkins devoted the bulk of his wealth to establishing both the hospital and university that bear his name. Determined to embrace the needs of the people of Baltimore, especially African American orphans, Hopkins bought up land and set aside over \$2 million in support of the hospital. He intended for the hospital ultimately to serve as a part of the university's medical school and formed two 12-member boards of trustees, each charged with running its respective institution.

When he died in 1873, Hopkins granted \$3.5 million to both the hospital and the university, leaving Johns Hopkins University with the largest endowment of any college in the United States at the time, larger than those of Harvard, Princeton and Cornell, the institutions that had previously held the largest sum of donations.

Though the Civil War slowed its construction somewhat, the all-male uni-

Continued on Page 5



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER
**Hopkins was too cool for school.
He dropped out at age 12.**



Finding hope amidst frustration

By Maany Peyvan

Four years ago, Hopkins was my dream school. I turned my back on local state and private colleges and applied early decision. I sealed a 10x12 envelope and waited patiently, hoping I wouldn't have to fill out anymore applications.

Four years ago, Hopkins was my dream school. And then I arrived and woke up.

After an encouraging week of Orientation, my enthusiasm began to wear down. My Resident Advisor played possum, my advisor was hardly that, deciding to lecture me about how much he "cared" about advising rather than, you know, actually doing so. The lights of the Inner Harbor faded fast and everything worthwhile seemed a cab ride away.

Professors never seemed to care,

one saying he would hold office hours in a locked building, leaving it up to his students to get in. The AC hadn't been built yet, and neither had Hodson Hall. The Mattin Center was a ghost town and the food at Terrace didn't go down easy.

Dominoes started to fall. It got grey and windy. After getting all my S's in the fall, I stopped going to class and landed on academic probation.

Within a year, I went from being one of Hopkins' most excited freshmen to one of its most disillusioned

sophomores.

Don't allow me to make it sound like it was all bad. I made great friends and had more than my share of good times, some even at Hopkins.

We had a great on-campus movie lineup that year and several strong MSE and Foreign Affairs Symposium lectures. Except for Bob Woodward the day after Sept. 11, 2001. He sucked.

But as often as I tried to admire and

appreciate Hopkins, I couldn't shake the feeling that the school wasn't for me.

But as often as I tried to admire and appreciate Hopkins, I couldn't shake the feeling that the school wasn't for me.

I suppose I came into Hopkins a step behind everybody else. The summer after graduation, I was excited about going to college. Not majoring in Biomedical Engineering, not getting on the fast track to SAIS, not passing the time before med school, not trying to land a career.

I thought college was about discovering what to do with your life, not utilizing tools to further a path you (or your parents) decided upon years ago. Maybe the promise of your degree will keep you satisfied, but that wasn't the case for me.

So what happened? I had to grow up, much faster than I wanted to. I searched for a new major (and advisor) I liked. I chose a career path, and I invested myself in a weekly rag called the *News-Letter*. Research and internships followed. I wasn't happy, so I got busy instead.

So I'll be the first to admit it. I screwed this up. I took an opportunity reserved for the elite of the world and mishandled it.

But rather than pouting, blaming the school or blaming myself, I'm trying to do something about it.

This year's newspaper is printed on the promise — my promise — to help make Hopkins a better place to go to college. Within the pages of this issue alone, you'll find a number of helpful suggestions from all our staffers: places to go, things to do before graduation, tips for getting along with roommates. Believe me and the rest of a dedicated staff: it's nothing compared to what we have in store.

Don't make, necessarily, the same mistakes I did. Hopkins is probably one of the hardest schools in the world to get through alone. You will need help. I'll bet you won't get much from your advisors or professors, but hey, I like to play the odds.

If you depend on Hopkins to give you a great experience, you'll be disappointed. If you're lucky enough to know yourself by your freshman year, this catharsis isn't for you. If you're still on that fragile path of self-discovery, it might get rockier than you expected.

Stay focused. Don't shortchange your future because you feel shortchanged by Hopkins.

And my final words of advice for those who've just set foot on the campus: If you make it through unscathed, do the mature thing: help make this school better. Start a club, join a student group, have your parents donate a wing. Don't stand still. Also, you should have brought a car.

Good luck.

— Maany Peyvan is a senior and a *News-Letter* Editor-In-Chief.

Johns Hopkins' legacy

Continued from Page 4

versity officially opened Feb. 22, 1876, inaugurating Daniel Coit Gilman as its first president. He immediately plotted a course for the University that would take it in a direction fundamentally different from any other in the U.S.

He established the first research university, adjoining research and teaching as intimately related ventures, in pursuit of "the encouragement of research...and the advancement of individual scholars, who, by their excellence, will advance the sciences they pursue and the society where they dwell."

On Oct. 4 of the same year, Professor Basil Gildersleeve gave the first lecture at 5 p.m. on Greek lyric poetry, and classes for students began the next day. The original faculty was composed of Gildersleeve, James J. Sylvester, Henry A. Rowland and Henry Newell Martin.

In 1883, the newly formed Johns Hopkins lacrosse club played its first game, losing 4-0 to the Druids Club of Baltimore. From 1888, Hopkins lacrosse teams play every year except 1944, with the intervention of World War II.

The Hopkins School of Nursing opened in 1889 following the completion of Johns Hopkins Hospital in 1888. An editorial in the *American* heralded the school, saying, "Without careful nursing, medicine and surgery are crippled agencies in the preservation of health and life, and with careful nursing it is often possible to preserve both

without their assistance."

The year 1896 marked the founding of the *News-Letter*, originally opposed by the trustees, which was printed every two weeks for the first twelve years, then weekly in 1909.

The University was initially intended for location in Clifton Park, Johns Hopkins' former estate, but in 1901 donors William Wyman and William Keyser offered a gift of 151.75 acres of land on Charles Street, only months before Ira Remsen was selected as the second president of the school.

Though many of the buildings at the original campus bore the same names of those at today's Homewood campus (McCoy and Levering, for instance), the new campus did not begin to materialize until 1907 when Homewood Field was completed, and a building in honor of Gilman was slated for construction in 1912.

The School of Engineering was established in 1919 when the department of applied science and advanced technology, funded and formed by the State of Maryland in 1913, became its own division of JHU.

The School of Hygiene and Public Health followed in 1918, opening in the physical laboratory of the old downtown campus.

Ninety years after the school's founding, the School of Arts and Sciences was created by the merger of the School of Engineering Sciences and the Faculty of Philosophy. Three years later, in 1969, the Academic Council recommended to the Uni-

versity that women be admitted to the undergraduate divisions of JHU. The policy was made official 11 days later.

The Peabody Institute and JHU formally affiliated in 1977 after nearly a century of informal ties. Faculty member Leon Fleisher declared, "It's a recognition that music is one of those human activities that most enoble the spirit, which I think is one of Hopkins' goals."

On Sept. 1, 1996, William R. Brody occupied the seat of president of JHU, the University's thirteenth.

From 1987 to 1994, Brody was a Martin Donner Professor and director of the Department of Radiology, a professor of electrical and computer engineering and biomedical engineering at JHU. He still serves as president of the University today.

Just in time for the University's 125th anniversary in 2001, a new "master plan for Homewood" was adopted, and an anonymous donation kick-started the project into implementation.

New brick, marble and granite paths replaced the many asphalt roads and paths in an effort to beautify the campus.

Now that you've gotten just a tiny sample of the rich history of your new home, it's time to start studying.

You will be tested on the above information on Monday in the library. Bring a No. 2 pencil and a blank piece of paper on which to draw a detailed map of the campus. If you receive a grade lower than 85 percent, you had better start looking for a new school.

Okay, so maybe there isn't a test.

WELCOME
N-L

Think beyond MSE and CVP: Do not leave campus without ...

By Jed Borod

Welcome to Hopkins. If you already have your heart set on medical school, I have some bad news: only 1,095 days left until the MCATs. And if you're thinking about that already, you're going about this whole endeavor the wrong way.

The next four years will fly by, but after a few months at JHU, you'll discover that post-graduation plans change quickly — ask any senior. Besides, you should be looking at college as a chance to enjoy your newfound freedom, not as one more rung on the ladder to your M.D. Over the last three years, *News-Letter* staffers have carefully field-tested the following suggestions, but they're only a starting point. Give them a try, because we know everything, but come up with your own, too.

1. Get Off Campus

Baltimore is a great place to go to school. Seriously. Not only is everything really cheap here, but the city offers tons of distinctive neighborhoods, access to other schools and close proximity to D.C. and New York. Figure out Hopkins' shuttles. Learn how to take the bus. Wait until your roommate does study abroad and then put 3,000 miles on his car. Whatever it takes, make an effort to get off campus and enjoy the city around you.

2. Get Really Far Off Campus

Unless you're the type of person who enjoys filling out forms and tracking down obscure academic figures, the study abroad process might seem like too much trouble. Wrong. Nothing you do in your four (or five ... or six) years at Hopkins will have a greater effect on your academic and personal outlook than hopping a plane to another country. Besides, if you do study abroad, next time your friend insists that Patisserie Sylvie on Rue d'Odessa in Paris (Métro stop Montparnasse on the 4, 6, 12 or 13, take the Rue d'Odessa exit, number five) has the best bread in the city, you can respond with your own equally boring anecdote.

3. Get A Job

You'll be amazed how fast you can spend money at Hopkins, especially once you realize that (most) food you buy off campus won't give you food poisoning. Non-work study jobs usually tend to start at a paltry \$7/hour, but you should get one anyway and latch on. By the time you



Sin in the City. Head down to Fells on Halloween to take in the sights. DENISE TERRY/FILE PHOTO

graduate, you'll be doing less work and getting paid twice as much if you're careful. And, no matter how badly you need money, don't work at the Phonathon.

4. Spend Halloween In Fells Point

Drink up. Dress up. Stagger onto a bus and enjoy one of the largest Halloween gatherings in the country. If you really can't think of something original, you should take my advice and go for the cat ears — because nobody will think of that one this year.

5. Spend The Summer in Baltimore

Ever wonder what Hopkins would be like if everyone relaxed? Spend a summer in Baltimore. You'll discover that people in Charles Village are actually friendly, and you can take advantage of the \$2 happy hour at Brewer's Art (best beer in Baltimore!). Don't worry about your high-powered internship in D.C. — you can save money by living in Baltimore and joining the cadre of elite

commuters who spend four hours on the MARC and the Hopkins shuttle each day.

6. Take A Swim

Tuition just went up again? Cool off your anger by downing a six pack of Natty Bo, grabbing a pair of shorts and taking a quick dip in President Brody's pool, located right in front of his stately manor. Watch out for the Hop Cops.

7. Find a New 2 a.m. Food Source

Now that you've left home, you have some serious responsibilities. Assuming Hopkins doesn't screw up again, Royal Farms will be gone by the time you read this, and Uni Mini isn't long for this world. It's up to you, dear freshman, to find a new place for drunken food within staggering distance of campus. We would recommend picking a place where the employees won't stab the students.

8. Steal Hopkins' Money

Our beloved University has piles

and piles of money. Next time you get hit for a \$5 lab fee or some equally petty expense, don't steal reams of paper from the computer lab. Get creative and apply for a scholarship or grant. The more obscure your interest, the better; chances are you can swindle a grant from the school and spend a summer investigating "Self-Regulating Customer Service Markets in Northern European Cities Ending in -Sterdam."

9. Stalk A Professor

If you're lucky, you'll have the chance to take classes taught by some of the smartest people you'll ever meet. Take the time to go to office hours and get to know one of your professors, and you'll have a better chance of doing research, getting recommendations or scoring a job after you graduate. Plus, you might learn something.

10. Go Northeast, Young Man

Despite the cries of weird University of Maryland fans, the true Hopkins lax rivalry involves the fake Ivy in New Jersey. Commandeer a car, discreetly pack some booze and head up the highway for an epic battle at Princeton. Last time, Hopkins fans managed to drown out the wine-befogged cries of 1,000 cardigan-wearing Princeton fans. Julian Gould still sucks.

11. Explore Campus

Every year someone mentions this in the first issue of the paper, but don't let the occasional locked door discourage your adventures. There's an observatory on the top of Bloomberg made for snowball fights and drunken escapades, but don't limit yourself to just that part of campus. Most of the buildings on the main quad are connected, so if you can get on the roof of one...

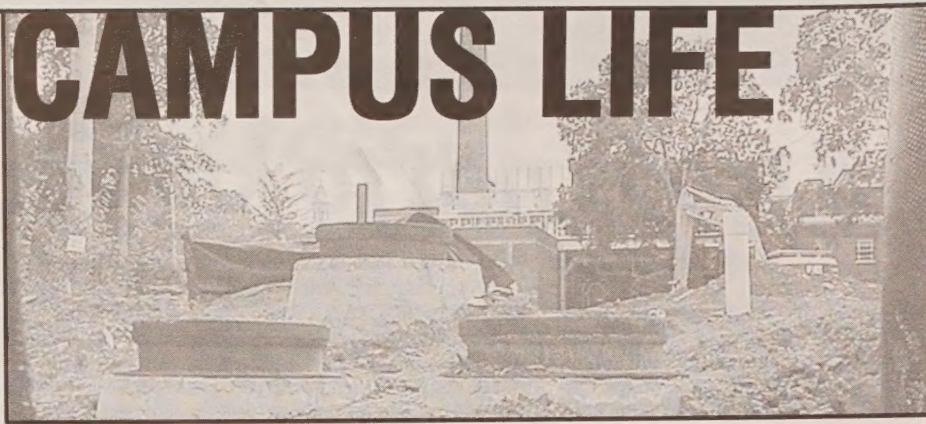
12. Practice Your International Relations

Might we suggest the Middle East as an area of study? Lebanon is nice. Try Beirut.

13. Write For The News-Letter

"Hopkins has over 250 campus organizations, and if you don't find one you like, you can start your own." Remember that one from your tour here? Only one campus organization provides free food to its staff and has an unfortunate tradition of letting people from California be in charge. Check us out.

"You can't throw a twinkie at this University without beaming a computer nerd."
— Writing Seminars Professor Tristan Davies



It's like The Real World without all the cameras: living the dorm life

By Jess Youdin

Welcome to University Housing. You either live in Buildings A or B, the Alumni Memorial Residences (AMRs), Wolman or McCoy. McCoy is generally an atypical housing assignment for freshmen — typical freshman housing is most accurately portrayed by the AMRs. By now you know that each type of housing has its certain advantages and disadvantages.

You may have heard that the AMRs are the most social housing option on campus. This is basically true. Buildings A and B can be social depending on who resides in the building. One year, Building A residents were so close they all had "Building A" t-shirts printed. Usually, however, the most social award goes to the AMRs.

Those who do not live in the AMRs, including "Wolmanites," tend to poke fun at their quad-dwelling peers. Wolmanites live in a "luxurious" seven-floor building equipped with an elevator and a more prominent security system. They have lounges with cable TV.

Building A and B residents enjoy suite-style living similar to Wolman's,

but they still lack carpeting and kitchenettes. Not only do the AMRs lack an elevator and suite-style living, they also require sharing a bathroom with an entire hall of people. The rooms are not air-conditioned and the heat source is derived from the amount of bodies co-existing in a small space.

Although the above statements are true, there is a simple explanation for why people in more comfortable housing prey on AMR residents: jealousy. Living in the AMRs is one of the fondest memories of Hopkins upperclassmen.

The close living space is a breeding ground, not only for rodents, but for the development of close relationships. Some meet their future boyfriends or husbands and others their roommates and suitemates for the next three years. Those in the AMRs become close very quickly. Many of the cliques of friends seen in later years developed because of a common hall or wing in the AMRs.

This type of closeness is not as frequently imitated in the other types of housing. Suite style can actually hinder new friendships because high privacy is emphasized. Living in Wolman or Buildings A and B can potentially add a

challenge to your social life. You are often limited to the three other people you live with and those on your floor, and it is important to know that only half of your floor will actually be social.

In buildings besides the AMRs, it's also much harder to wander from floor to floor. You will find that doors are locked and shut in Wolman and Buildings A and B during certain time periods, but that exploring the AMRs is a possibility 24/7. It is common to stroll upstairs the first week and return having already made friends and acquired a new crush.

The AMRs provide your stereotypical freshman experience. This means guitar playing in the quad, people rollerblading through the halls, late night group showers, people shouting at all hours, the sounds of sex, the smell of Ramen noodles, roommate quarrels, and of course on the weekends, vomit.

You learn what it means to share a closet-sized space with a perfect stranger. You also learn to value the privacy you once had. Even though it's hard to have peace and quiet in the AMRs, they really are the most fun.

This picture of stereotypical college chaos may get you excited, but even though you may want to go crazy in the dorms, you will want to remember one important thing: your Resident Advisor (RA).

While many of the RAs were once in your position and try to be flexible, they really are limited in what they can allow you to do. It is important to respect your RA because he or she has his or her own rules and consequences to abide by, even if this means breaking up the fun. Many freshmen tend to assume their RA will be laid back and they can get away with doing virtually anything. Many times RAs are not that flexible.

Some take their job extremely seriously and will not let you get away with anything. Others follow a more "don't know, don't care" type of attitude. This means keep anything you shouldn't be doing out of their sight at all costs. Anything will and can be confiscated.

There are plenty of places to drink and take part in general partying and there is no reason to limit it to your

SURVIVING THE AMRS

1. Watch out for the rodents

These mini-beasts tend to run rampant in the AMRs, so don't leave out open food containers, or else you might receive a visit from the University's complimentary pets.

2. Study in the library

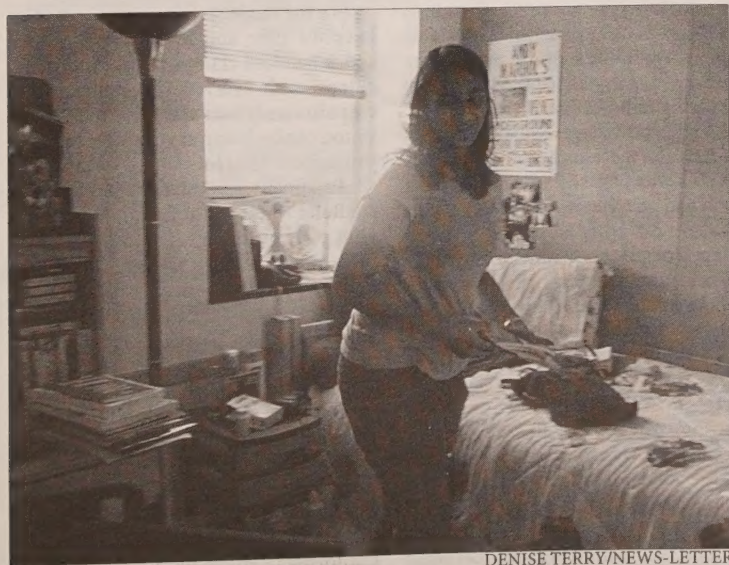
The beauty of AMR life is its many opportunities for socializing and distractions. This is usually great, except when exams and assignments start rolling in and you need to hit the books (and the cubicles of MSE, your new second home).

3. Keep your reputation in mind

Gossip travels quickly in such close quarters — do you really want to be infamous for your first-month hijinks?

4. Get out and about

Remember, there's more to campus than Adams or Willard. Branch out and meet those poor kids stuck in McCoy with all the sophomores. It's nice to have friends with kitchens and air conditioning.



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

The AMRs aren't as nice as other dorms, but this resident seems happy.

dorm. If caught drinking in the dorms, the consequences for students can be intense. You will learn about these from your RA.

Respect what ground rules your RA maintains. Most likely if you show respect for your RA, he or she will treat you well. If you decide to cop an attitude to your RA on the first day, you set the tone for a bad year, as well as guaranteed extra patrolling of your room. In an argument between you and your RA, your RA will win no matter what; humble yourself now.

All that said, freshman year is a blast. In all honesty, it doesn't matter where you live. You find that the only extended amount of time spent in your room is for sleeping. Most people use the library for quiet time, the dining halls for eating, and frat parties or off-campus apartments for drinking. You shouldn't worry and place too much emphasis on where you live. Again, welcome to University Housing.

5 ways not to kill your roommate

By Robbie Whelan

I remember move-in day like it was yesterday. The sun was shining, President Brody was in his extreme inline-skates, grinding along the railing outside Terrace. Or wait – was it his BMX bike? Anyway, one thing I do remember was my freshman roommate. How could I forget him? He was tall, gangly, smelled like cheese. He shook my hand, clapped me on the back, and so we began a fun-filled year of hunting mice, playing football on the quad and doing economics problem sets.

But it wasn't all fun and games. No two freshmen are 100% compatible, and problems with the roomie are inevitable. Mine, for example, was a member of a Satanist cult, and when he was at their meetings with his fellow College Republicans, I used to have to clean up handfuls of Chex mix that he left around the room. Once, I touched one of his dirty socks, and had to go on antibiotics for eight weeks. Also, he used to bring home the most *beautiful* conservative women, and taunt me by talking dirty business ethics to them — while I was right there in the room!

Despite our differences, we got through the year without much more than a few minor arguments. Heck, we even had some good times, like when he used to call me "Robjob", or the time I made out with his girlfriend while he was in the shower. The point is, my roommate and I learned to live with, and even celebrate, our differences.

Here are some tips for you, my dear freshman, while you're still wet behind the ears, that you can use to get along with your atrocious-smelling, poorly-organized, overly-political, tactless roommate. What doesn't kill you only makes you stronger.

1. Build a wall

If the going gets tough, make a wall out of furniture, Occ Civ textbooks or cinder blocks between your side of the room and your roommate's. This way, you won't have to look at him when he picks his nose and spills Chex mix on his bare chest while watching the Cubs game in his underwear and muttering about Ditka.

2. Insult his religion

There's no better way to solicit silent treatment from your obnoxious roommate. People are very sensitive about their faiths, so if things get to a point where it's not worth working your problems out, a well-placed epithet makes sure that having to actually talk to your roommate is no longer a problem.

3. Find a common interest

If you both like music, go to a concert together. Maybe you both like bar-

becue? Leave some ribs under his pillow! Or perhaps you are both *Seinfeld* fanatics? In that case, be sure to leave reruns of the hilarious sitcom playing late in the night while you fall asleep and he studies. Even if he can't see the screen from behind the wall, he'll be sure to appreciate at least listening to Jerry's gags.

4. Leave Post-It notes everywhere

Does your roommate always miss

the spittoon? He can't wait until your girlfriend's gone to fart loudly, then laugh loudly about it? He doesn't take out the trash? The only way to make your point painfully clear, especially if you two aren't talking, is by leaving Post-It notes all over his computer screen, mini-fridge, stereo and bedspread. Try to use half a pad of Post-It repeats for each message you are trying to get across to your roomie. Trust me, this is the only way.

5. Get a new roommate

No joke, if you really just cannot stand your roommate, you can always go to the housing office and trade him or her in for a new one. There's no exchange fee, and the people who work at housing are great people. They're nice and understanding of your problems, kind of like the Sodexo workers who serve food in the cafeteria. Your needs come first at the Housing Office. Always.

A Sodexo survival guide

Your guide to Terrace, Wolman, Levering and everything in between

By Allan Soto

If you are the typical Hopkins student, you are probably more concerned with yesterday's Physics' lecture or tomorrow's Orgo exam than about where your next meal is coming from.

You might even be a BME major and find that the registrar failed to schedule lunch and dinnertime into your crammed course schedule.

You may find yourself asking in a panic, "So what do I do? I don't want to starve to death."

Relax. Hopkins doesn't want you to starve to death either. Besides, if you starved and wasted away, that would leave them with one less tuition-paying student.

Your simple solution is campus dining services. Hopkins has vast assortments of food sources and vendors available throughout the Homewood campus. Here is what is available and how to best satisfy your hunger around your schedule.

There are two main dining halls located on the Homewood campus. Terrace Court Café, located in AMR II, and Wolman Station, located in Wolman Hall. Both feature buffet style serving areas, as well as made-to-order sections. It is at these locations that you will use the blocks on your meal plan.

Terrace is open continuously from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Breakfast is served in the mornings and followed by a continental-style breakfast. Service then transitions to a full lunch menu followed by a limited lunch menu. Dinner concludes meal services for the day. Also featured at Terrace is the Kosher Korner, which serves only kosher food. Those who require a kosher diet should choose a meal plan with a kosher option. Wolman Station serves breakfast, lunch and dinner in three separate blocks.

If you find yourself lacking the time



ALLISON BERKEN/NEWS-LETTER

Service and a smile. Vernetta Mortan dishes out your basic Wolman fare.

to sit and have a full lunch you may want to use a boxed lunch option. Simply go to Wolman Station or Terrace during lunch hours and let the cashier swipe your JCard, then instead of eating in simply take a boxed meal to go.

You might find yourself with some time for lunch, but not enough time to sit down and eat a full meal. A viable option would be a quick meal at the Depot, MegaBytes, or a visit to the Levering Food Court.

The Depot features a quick grab-and-go menu for those on the run. MegaBytes offers a mix between a sit-down and a grab and go style menu. At MegaBytes students can purchase food straight off the grill or go for pasta and pizza. MegaBytes features a lounge-style atmosphere, where students can sit on couches and chat while grabbing a bite.

A popular choice on campus, especially with faculty and upper classmen, seems to be Levering Food Court. Following a recent colorful makeover, Levering has transformed itself into a flashy location where you may find yourself eating next to the professor whose lecture you just attended.

Like its name suggests, Levering Food Court is not too different from

your typical mall food court. Food choices available at Levering include Salsa Rico, Pete's Arena, Sub Connection and Sky Ranch Grill. The Depot, MegaBytes and Levering Food Court accept the points on your meal plan, JCash and good old-fashioned cash.

For the student who simply does not have the time and just wants a quick snack between classes, 82 vending machines, with everything ranging from chips to candy bars and Pepsi to bottled water, can be found at various locations throughout the Homewood Campus.

And finally, if you are one of the many students who cannot function without your early morning café mocha or simply need to energize yourself for a long night of studying with an espresso, you need not worry. Several cafes serving all your java needs, as well as an assortment of pastries and sandwiches, are situated throughout campus. These locations include the MSE library, Bloomberg, Levering Hall and the Ralph S. O'Connor Recreation Center.

For more information on meal plans, availability, hours and other general dining service information, refer to the Dining Services web site, <http://www.jhu.edu/~hds/dine/>, or call (410) 516-7960.

Parking your ride: cars at JHU...

Sure, you love driving and the freedom it provides. But is a car worth the trouble in Baltimore?

By Jon Zimmer

Of all the rites of passage teenagers experience, passing the road test ranks high on the list for almost everybody. Having the freedom to get from A to B without begging Mom or Dad for a ride — even if you do have to beg them for the keys — is liberating. But once college rolls around, is it worth the hassle of bringing a car along with you?

In Baltimore, the short answer is “no,” especially for underclassmen who are on the meal plan. Public transit in Baltimore is atrocious, but cabs to the Harbor aren’t too expensive if you go with a group. Plus, Hopkins’ late-night happenings are mostly within walking distance.

Once you hit junior year and get booted into an apartment or a row house, though, a car is more useful for trips to the grocery store and other errands. Plus, it is better to hop in a car and head for downtown, something you’ll likely do more often, rather than flagging down a cab.

Still, gas prices are frightful, parking can be a royal pain and tickets can put a serious dent in your wallet. If you’re ever planning to take a car to school with you, you should first be informed. Here is a quick look at the most popular parking options for Hopkins students:

Ham and Egg It

Continuing in the time-honored college tradition of being cheap, many Hopkins students opt to park their cars in free spots on University Parkway. Once school is back in swing, those spots in front of the baseball field and Homewood are like gold. There are lots of spot sans meters, and if you happen to snag one of them, you can leave your car there for a long time.

Another big reason this area is a good place to park is because it is a well-populated spot with lots of pedestrian traffic (Read: your car is less likely to get mangled or stolen). Another one of Baltimore’s “charms” is a high rate of car theft, so this

is a legitimate concern.

If you do decide park on the street, make it a point to at least swing past your car every few days to make sure things are in order. The city of Baltimore sometimes posts “no parking” signs for no real reason, so keep your eyes peeled.

There are lots of metered spots on University and St. Paul Streets, but it is pretty easy to forget about feeding the stupid things (I know from experience). You can park in metered spots for free at night, though (be sure to read the sign carefully for times). Just make sure you roll out of bed and move it the next day. Traffic wardens in this town are streaky; sometimes you’ll have a ticket two minutes after the meter runs out, but you could luck out and survive for hours parked illegally.

Oh, and by the way, if it snows ... pay to put your car in a garage for a few days if you think the plows will be let loose. It will ruin your day off if you find your car with a scrape across the side and no mirror.

Parking Garages

Expensive. *Really* expensive. You are looking at upwards of \$100 per month if you want the security and dependability of a spot in a parking lot there for you every day. Obviously, this is the least stressful way to keep a car here because you will always have a safe spot, but most students aren’t willing to take a \$600 to \$1,000 hit each year to park their cars.

But if your parents offer to foot the bill, don’t be a hero. Take the deal.

Row House Parking

Reserved for those who actually live in the houses, so if you already do, you’re golden. But some row houses with students have spots that just sit there unused because the inhabitants don’t drive. It’s worth asking around with your friends to see if they have a spot for you to use, even if it’s only for emergencies.

The Hopkins Lots

Technically, the lots by Garland and in back of the Athletic Center are reserved for faculty and commuter students. Actually, it’s pretty easy to get your name on the lease of a buddy that lives in Towson and apply for a sticker. For less than \$100 a semester, it’s a pretty nice deal. You can have easy access to classes and the AC, plus you can remain worry free about your car’s safety.

If you have a friend who lives a few miles away in an apartment and is willing to look past the ethical implications of forging documents, it is a viable option.

Area 12 Permits

It takes a little red tape to get your hands on one of these babies if you live out of state, but it’s worth it if you develop a distaste for searching for spots on University Parkway. Anybody can use Area 12 spots for up to two hours, but you will probably get a ticket if you leave it there for a half day without a permit.

So what is the best way to keep a car on campus?

If you’re cheap, you can get by parking on the street if you’re smart about it. But you will experience less stress if you have a permanent home for your wheels.

If you bring a car here and the benefits of the freedom don’t outweigh the hassle, bring it back home.

Then your stress will come exclusively from Orgo or Microtheory. Wonderful.

...or how about the bus?

By Francesca Hansen

There are plenty of reasons to be afraid of Baltimore. There’s no excuse for being afraid of taking the bus in Baltimore. I’ve had it with Hopkins students who can’t tear themselves away from the shelter of their dark green Passat and imagine taking public transportation. Get over it. You may live in the Hamptons, but it’s time to actually ride the bus with people from a lower tax bracket. I charge you, the incoming freshman class, to be done with this travel ignorance before second semester begins and you start to think that “exploring the city” involves taking the shuttle to Super Fresh.

Sock it to the MTA

Take the bus. For those that try to use the “it’s complicated” excuse, no dice. Here’s the idiot’s guide to taking the bus:

1. Have \$1.60 in exact change, and you’re good to go. Don’t put in a \$5 bill and be sad when you don’t get change back and make the rest of the line wait.

2. Your basic routes are lines 3 and 11, as marked on the major bus stops on Charles and St. Paul Streets (Charles goes one way (north), St. Paul the other (south)). South is in the direction of Mount Vernon, Inner Harbor, Federal Hill, et al. This said, there’s a lot more to Baltimore than Charles Street. Find other lines at: <http://www.mtamarland.com/services/bus>.

3. Pay attention on the bus. Don’t strike up conversations, and when you are close to your stop, press the Yellow strip and, MAGIC, the bus STOPS.

4. When? It runs every four minutes

You may live in the Hamptons, but it's time to actually ride the bus with people from a lower tax bracket.

in the early morning rush, and about every half hour after that. For specific times and routes, check the aforementioned Web site.

D.C. and Beyond

A dingy, orange upholstered train named MARC can become one of your best friends in Baltimore. The commuter train leaves from Penn Station almost on the hour every hour, and all the time during the commuter rush. Although it doesn’t run on weekends, you can pop in for a Friday dinner in D.C. at a reasonable rate. Don’t forget those cities that

have popped up between Baltimore and D.C. merely for the sake of commuters ... Halethorpe? Seabrook? Middle-class paradises on the East Coast!

The Hopkins Shuttle

Get on the navy blue bus. They’re good for what they are, but it’s hard to call them “transportation.” You can call them from 5 p.m. until 2 a.m., no matter how drunk, no questions asked. Program (410) 516-8700 into your phone, be nice to the operator, and you’ll get your van anywhere from 10 minutes to 40 minutes later. Be patient so you don’t look like a fool calling a taxi from SigEp. Keep in mind, there are “route vans” that circulate between the Homewood Apartments and SuperFresh (approximately), and special vans that take you anywhere your little heart desires within two miles. Things noteworthy within two miles: Thai Restaurant (in the heart of Greenmount), Hampden main street, grocery stores including Safeway, SuperFresh, and now Super Giant, and Blockbuster.

However, don’t forget: you’re not traveling anywhere, you’re being “escorted” somewhere. It’s about as cheap and dirty as it sounds. With all this information at hand, never fear the Baltimore Streets again. Whether you like it or not, you have an urban campus with endless opportunities at your fingertips. Be safe when you travel and, most especially, don’t be sorry that you didn’t.

The aftermath of a difficult year: increasing security at Hopkins

By Eric Ridge

The Johns Hopkins Security Department is making an increased effort this fall to educate students about ways to stay safe at Homewood. The move comes after the murder of junior Christopher Elser, who was stabbed to death in an off-campus fraternity house last April.

Hopkins is still following a standard style of handling security, said Hopkins Security Lt. Steven Ossmus, but they are also aggressively trying to educate members of the Hopkins community.

"The awareness is something we're really jumping on this year so that people know what we have so that they can best take advantage of it," he said.

Hopkins is using a variety of methods to reach students. For example, Hopkins Security officers plan to talk with Resident Assistants during their training program to educate them about ways to stay safe. In addition, they will also make a one-hour presentation during freshman orientation and will host another for graduate students. The presentations will also feature a newly created Power Point presentation. By targeting those two groups, officials hope that they will be able to introduce them to the services offered by the security office.

"We're trying to put our names out and our faces out and to encourage them to contact us regarding security or crime issues in general," Ossmus said.

Security officials say that some of their best tips are common sense, such as walking in pairs and groups. That in particular applies to the new construction taking place near campus.

"We have the new project, Royal Farms and Ivy Hall are closed and people might be branching out fur-

ther for food. We ask them to be mindful of their surroundings," said Ossmus.

He encourages students to use the Hopkins escort and shuttle service as much as possible. Hopkins also has student security monitors who can walk with students to various places on campus. In addition, there are also over twenty-five blue lights on campus which Ossmus says can only help students if they are mindful of their surroundings.

Officials are also awaiting the findings of a full security assessment that was conducted last spring by IXp Corporation of Princeton, NJ, a private consulting firm that has done similar work at other colleges across the country. IXp's technological assessment will cover areas such as dispatch, the use of digital cameras and camera placement.

Hopkins' increased security efforts come at a time when crime has been a particularly big issue at Homewood. Even though crime rates have fallen in Baltimore city during the past year, they have risen in the areas immediately surrounding Hopkins.

Adding extra reason for alarm, Hopkins students have been particularly vulnerable to the recent spat of crime in the area.

The year began with a series of indecent exposure incidents that occurred across from campus on North Charles Street. The first two incidents occurred within three weeks of each other. At the time, Hopkins Investigator Dennis Rosemary told the *News-Letter* that indecent exposure incidents were rare and often isolated.

"I couldn't give you a clue as to why this has happened now. It could be someone released from an institution. We haven't had this in a while," he said.



DENISE TERRY/FILE PHOTO

Sgt. Caroline Bennett patrols campus mindful of Hopkins students' safety.

In mid-February, an international student was tricked by two con artists into withdrawing a large sum of money from his bank account. The incident, called a "flim flam" or a highly professional scam, occurred

suffered serious intestinal injuries.

The suspect, Rodeny McClain, was apprehended by Baltimore City Police.

Just a few weeks later, a Hopkins junior suffered minor injuries when a would-be robber confronted him near the Allston Apartment building on North Charles Street. The victim managed to punch his attacker, but he did suffer a cut on his arm when the attacker swung at him with a knife before fleeing the scene.

The awareness is something we're really jumping on this year so that people know what we have so that they can best take advantage of it.

— LT. STEVEN OSSMUS, HOPKINS SECURITY

In response to the security problems, most notably the Elser stabbing, the administration held a town-hall meeting with students to discuss how to make the area safer. But while many say there is more that can be

done, some people caution that security concerns are a part of everyday life.

"Hopkins is in an urban environment," Hopkins spokesman Dennis O'Shea said last April. "But in many ways, no matter where you are, it is an unfortunate fact of the society in which we live that we have to be cognizant of our surroundings at all times."

The customer, a Towson University student who lived with Hopkins students,

HOW TO PLAY IT SAFE IN BALTIMORE

Travel in packs

Freshmen tend to do this naturally, so it shouldn't be too difficult to follow this nugget of advice. It's quite simple — don't walk alone in the dark. Call campus security for an escort, if necessary.

Use the shuttles

When you plan on venturing away from the immediate campus, call for a campus shuttle. You might have to wait awhile, but it's worth it (especially when the weather isn't perfect).

Follow your instincts

If you feel creeped out, it's for good reason.

Don't stay in a situation or environment that makes you feel uncomfortable. Again, this is common sense stuff, but very important to keep in mind.

Use on-campus ATMs

There are ATMs in Wolman and Gilman, so use them whenever you can.

Program these campus security numbers into your phone

Non-emergency: (410)-516-4600

Emergency: (410)-516-7777

Shuttle: (410)-516-8700

Getting physical in the Rec. Center

Students head to the fitness center for all of their basketball, ping-pong and strippercise needs

By Jeff Katzenstein

You played sports in high school, but without a red-faced, whistle-blowing coach yelling at you to do sprints, you're worried that you'll be soft and out of shape by the end of the semester. Maybe you're an avid rock climber who's worried because you're not seeing any mountains around Baltimore.

Or maybe you'd just like to lose (or gain) a few pounds so your high school friends don't recognize you come Intercession. For the fitness buff or novice, Hopkins has tons of options to choose from. To start, Homewood now has a shiny new (as of 2002) athletic center to serve your indoor fitness needs. In addition, there are dozens of possibilities for outdoor activities offered through the school.

Hopkins raised some \$14.3 million from donors to construct the Ralph S. O'Connor Recreation Center, which

opened in January 2002. It was certainly a long time coming, as it adjoins the worn-down Newton H. White, Jr. Athletic Center, which opened in 1964, when the student body was still all-male. While the White Center remains open and offers an option when all the basketball courts in the O'Connor Center are full, it is generally more exclusive to varsity athletes.

The 63,000 square-foot, three-level O'Connor Center includes a weight room and cardiovascular/fitness center on separate levels (which creates sort of a separation of genders), a 30-foot climbing wall, an 18,000 square foot gymnasium, locker rooms, racquetball/squash courts, a small classroom and an upper-level multi-purpose room, which is usually used for fitness classes.

The gymnasium is also quite versatile, as the three basketball courts are often transformed into badminton or volleyball courts or filled with ping-

pong tables for the table tennis team. The swimming pool, located in the original building, underwent major renovations over the summer to improve filtration, ventilation and lighting.

The student response to the new facility has been overwhelming. In the days of the rusty, run-down varsity weight rooms of the old athletic center, not nearly as many students worked out regularly out as they do now. Director of Recreation and Facilities Bill Harrington estimates that around 500 or 600 students frequented the old athletic center per day, compared to the nearly 1,200 to 1,400 per day that the new Rec. Center sees these days. Unfortunately, such a response isn't a good thing for students, as a crowded rec. center means that working out takes longer.

"There was really no way of gauging what the volume [at the new Rec. Center] would be because the equipment provided previously was inadequate,"

says Harrington. "The Homewood Apartments had about as much fitness equipment as we did back then, and during the prime time when people wanted to work out, the weight room was occupied by varsity practices."

But just because the Rec. Center is crowded sometimes doesn't mean you have to wait. Your best bet is to go to the Rec. Center during off-peak hours. Working out in the morning is a good idea if you're ambitious enough to do so, because most other students aren't.

Things start picking up around the late afternoon, and by around 7 p.m., you'll probably have to wait to use a machine or a court. Still, with the gym open 18 hours a day on weekdays (6 a.m. — midnight) and 12 hours a day on weekends (10 a.m. — 10 p.m.), you shouldn't have trouble designing a workout schedule.

If running on a treadmill or working on your incline bench press isn't for you, the many fitness classes that are offered on the upper level of the Rec. Center present some other good options. Options include yoga classes, cardio kickboxing, step classes and even a dancing class called "strippercise." For a fee of \$40 per semester, students can attend any and as many fitness classes as they want to.

For those who would rather spend their time outdoors, the Recreation Department also offers a number of day trips throughout the school year, including hiking, whitewater kayaking and rock climbing.

Finally, there's the option of intramural and club sports. Club sports present a happy medium between the more informal intramural and the more competitive varsity sports. With some 25 sports to choose from, from paintball to taekwondo to lacrosse, you probably won't feel left out.

For the even more spontaneous student, the campus is your playground. Play a game of football on the beach. Get a game of cricket going on the lower quad. Grab a racket and head to the tennis courts. Run on the track at Homewood field. Trek to the BIA fields (through the forest past Homewood Field) to play some baseball. There's rarely a shortage of playing space.

The trick, of course, is to manage your classes and study time well enough to have time to do all this. "[Fitness] is one of the best stress relievers," Harrington says. "We're not advocating four hours a day in the Rec. Center, but even if you catch a late workout, it gets the blood flowing before you study."

With so many options and facilities this nice, you'll probably find you don't need that coach screaming in your ear as motivation.

Who needs lacrosse when we've got fencing?

By Jon Zimmer

If you play a sport at Hopkins that is not lacrosse, you have inevitably heard the following remark: "Oh, I didn't know they played (insert sport here) at Hopkins." It's almost as bad as the "Are you going to be a doctor?" question that follows when people first learn that you go to Hopkins.

Yes, men's lacrosse is *the* sport at Johns Hopkins University. But the Blue Jay athletic department has quietly built a burgeoning lineup of Division III teams in a variety of sports, even though you'll never see the highlights on SportsCenter. Lacrosse did finish the regular season ranked number one for the third straight year, but was upended by Syracuse in the National Semifinals.

A member of the Centennial Conference, Johns Hopkins took home Centennial Championships in baseball, field hockey and football last year. The Blue Jay baseball squad was ranked number one in the nation for the bulk of the spring and finished seventh in the final poll after racking up a school record of 40 wins against just four losses.

Field hockey started slow during the early part of its season, but peaked in the conference tournament and upset top-seeded Ursinus to secure the auto-

matic NCAA Tournament bid from the Centennial. Football (10-1) won a share of its second consecutive conference crown, while also taking another ECAC championship in the postseason and

As fun as it is to be one of 10,000 crazed fans at Hopkins versus Princeton in the spring, you're missing out if those are the only games you frequent.

establishing a new program benchmark for wins in a season.

Both men's and women's swimming are perennial players in the NCAA Division III Swimming & Div-

ing Championships. The men have placed in the top five nationally for the past five seasons, while the women have placed in the top 10 for seven straight years.

The women's basketball team — which finished No. 13 in the final season poll with a 24-4 overall record — also made history this past season when it beat then number one-ranked Washington College (St. Louis). That victory marked the first time a team other than men's lacrosse beat a nationally top-ranked opponent in school history. The Lady Jays also advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament before losing Marymount, a perennial D-III power.

Women's lacrosse, which made the jump to Division I four years ago, has also grown by leaps and bounds. The Jays finished 12-5 and made their first-ever NCAA Division I Championship tournament appearance.

Be it fall, winter or spring, Hopkins puts quality teams on the field. So keep your eyes peeled for big games year round.

As fun as it is to be one of 10,000 crazed fans at Hopkins versus Princeton in the spring, you're missing out if those are the only games you frequent. Take a break from studying for an hour or two and check out a game besides lacrosse.

You just might enjoy yourself.

Whine for mommy all you want, but you're sick and she's not here

By Allan Soto

Being on your own can be a fun and rewarding journey for many Hopkins students. Some have even ventured to say the experience played as intricate a role in their college education as any class they took.

However, the fun quickly fades the first time you are sick and realize you are also on your own to take care of it. "Where do I go?," "What do I do?," many ask. Relax, Hopkins has already thought of this and provided you with an answer.

The Student Health and Wellness Center is conveniently located on the terrace level of the AMRII building. And, best of all, office visits with their available staff of doctors and nurses are always free of charge for all full-time and part-time Hopkins students.

Services available at the Health and Wellness Center range from allergy injections and physical exams to birth control counseling and confidential HIV testing. Appointments for Health and Wellness services can be made by phone or in person. In many cases appointments can even be made the same day.

Aside from the numerous bins of condoms that cover nearly every table in the Health and Wellness building, there are many other birth control options offered to students. Most notably, certain brands of birth control pills are available, with the recent exception of Ortho-Cyclen and LoOval.

Since contagious illnesses spread like wildfire in the dorms, many students choose to get flu shots in order to avoid the epidemics.

When the time comes, flu shots are available either by appointment or drop-in, though setting up an appointment will save you from a rather long wait.

If by chance you happen to be one of the few unfortunate students who falls ill the day of the big Calculus or Biology exam, many professors will require documentation of illness in order to grant you a make-up. This documentation can be obtained at the Student Health and Wellness Center following a consultation. So it would be in your best interest, both physically and academically, to have that illness checked out.

If you ever find yourself in an emergency health situation and cannot get to the Health and Wellness Clinic or the clinic is closed, call campus security at (410) 516-7777. And of course, in the event of any life-threatening situation call 911.

In addition to physical health, the Student Health and Wellness Center also takes care of students' mental health situations. A major problem found on any campus is stress, but in particular a school as demanding as Hopkins can stress out even the most resilient of students.

The Health and Wellness Center features a CD lending library with several relaxation CDs, which can be borrowed by any Hopkins'

A major problem found on any campus is stress, but in particular a school as demanding as Hopkins can stress out even the most resilient of students.



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

In addition to offering health services, Health and Wellness has a bag o' goodies outside its door. Grab one. You never know when you'll need it.

students for a period of two weeks.

Many resources to help you cope with stress can also be found on the JHU and Health and Wellness website.

The Health and Wellness Center hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. till 5 p.m., as well as Saturday from 9 a.m.

till noon. For more complete information on services available and general information refer to the Health and Wellness Web site, <http://www.jhu.edu/~shcenter/index.html>. To schedule an appointment or speak with a staff member call (410) 516-8270.

Coping with college life: JHU counseling options

By Denise Terry

Katie's white board reads: "German final 9 a.m., 20 page paper due 12 p.m., IAP final 3 p.m., 15 page paper due 6 p.m. (drop off Gilman, 2nd floor)." What the board doesn't have to say is "Arrrrgh, the STRESS!"

Everyone experiences some form of stress during college, whether it involves petty fights between roommates, finals anxiety or the art of picking a daily wardrobe. The most important thing for a student to remember is that the world is not after you. Nobody wants to see you completely stressed out or failing (unless you are a premed or BME — then hordes of fellow students are waiting for your academic demise); there is help.

The Counseling Center, located on the third floor of Garland Hall, is available to assist you. The Counseling Center offers psychological and career counseling for undergraduate and graduate students. The center is staffed

with a psychologist, a consulting psychiatrist, social workers and a substance abuse counselor. Regardless of the staff's professional training, their job is to listen to you.

The Counseling Center not only has 50-minute counseling sessions once a week for individuals, but also offers group counseling sessions for undergraduate and graduate students who are in search of a supportive environment to discuss any problems.

If you are not interested in sharing with or venting to older professionals, you could visit A Place to Talk (APTT) instead. APTT offers student-to-student peer counseling in a relaxing and comforting environment. The students working at APTT are trained to listen to whatever you have on your mind without giving advice.

"Some students feel like it's a more comfortable situation," said Divya Prasad, a senior and APTT counselor. Prasad notes that the APTT room

is located in close proximity to freshmen — in the common area of ARM — because the service can be particularly useful to new students. "Freshmen are the ones who have adjustment issues," she said. "It's a good way of making freshmen aware that the service exists."

And of course, like at the Counseling Center, everything at APTT stays completely confidential.

The next time that you are feeling stressed out or hopeless (and of course we hope that is not a frequent occurrence), consider the option of discussing your issues with someone, whether it be with trained professionals at the Counseling Center, understanding students at APTT or even just your friends.

For information about the Counseling Center contact (410) 516-8278 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., or Homewood Campus Security at (410) 516-7777 or Peabody Security at (410) 659-8100 x1000 for after-hour emergencies.

No money means mo' problems

You can balance your bling and your books with work-study or a job at the neighborhood joint

By Robbie Whelan

Last year I had a dilemma. I was sitting in my ergonomic Ikea chair, my collar popped, you know, just sort of watching SportsCenter on the plasma and having a few brews, and I realized, I had a dilemma.

See, I'd really been jonesing some phat rims for my Grand Cherokee, but I had broken my trust fund three times that semester alone, and my parents weren't really feeling it. Basically, there were no checks coming in the mail, and I needed some scratch.

This type of situation is rather commonplace for the average Hopkins student, so don't feel bad. It's totally normal.

However, it does raise some very important questions about how one should manage his or her finances during these four idyllic and love-filled years that we call college. So, naturally, as an older and wiser Hopkins student, it's my obligation to impart some of my suggestions on how to make, keep and invest your money during your years here in Baltimore.

The most important thing to remember is that very few things are not worth being broke in order to have them. What I'm saying is, if the decision is between a healthy meal and a pair of fly Ray-Bans, there's no sense in relying on your interest in nutrition. Does eating fresh produce convey to your classmates the same sense of debonair detachment as does your vintage aviators with UV protection? Of course not. The Ray-Ban corporation has no conception of what it's like to be in dire need of money, so neither should you. That's a philosophy that can be applied to most college situations. Write that down so you don't forget.

So that's the first thing — wise spending. If you never make silly purchases, you will pretty much always be happy with your fiduciary situation.

But if you're like me, and you are in need of some cash to begin with, how do you get it and hold on to it?

A wise man once called to my attention the entire black market supply for the recreational use of Percodan, Percoset, and Vicodin, which comes from college kids who get their wisdom teeth removed. That means money, and lots of it. However, such a business proposition would be highly illegal, so if you are one of the lucky, lucky, blessed few to be on the receiving end of such a prescription, don't even think about it. Trust me.

On the other hand, my darling kids, you can always get a work-study job. Work-study is a way of admitting to your friends that you really can't afford Brooks Brothers Nantucket Reds, and that maybe the hike in gas prices is kind of hurting the supply of bill-wads in your Vuitton handbag. Yes, getting a work-study job is a humbling experi-

ence, indeed, but sometimes it can be fun. For example, several of my work-study colleagues and I single-handedly ruined the quality of the JHU Counseling Center's patient information database by the force of the poor caliber of our record-keeping and the irresponsibility of our work habits.

Also, the neighborhood job is not an out-of-the-question option, should you get low on beer money, or if that

Structure ski jacket is a painful reminder to you of your less-than-blue-blood status. I worked at a restaurant on Charles Street for four months, under the atrocious management of a chef and a night manager, neither of whom spoke English and who vehemently believed that the customer is *never* right.

And in the end, these are the types of experiences you are going to remember at Hopkins. Like the time I got fired from

my first work study gig, I just went back to the crib, put on my High Life visor, and did a few keg stands. After that, I didn't feel bad about losing my job at all.

Also, I recommend investing in real estate, and not getting involved with Capitol Hill-type girls who demand \$200-a-plate meals and Italian shoes for their birthdays. Just remember that and you'll be fine. Oh, and also — save your quarters for the laundry.

Does an 'A' in love have to mean a 'D' in Biology?

By Francesca Hansen

Relationships, like many things at Hopkins, require a lot more work but aren't necessarily better.

Hopkins first appears to be like a nice summer camp — a comfortable number of people to choose from, everyone's pretty smart and not excessively ugly.

Then comes the bleak winter of dating reality. The frat basements have emptied, and all of a sudden pairs pop up — everyone's holding hands and sitting together at the library. It's time to find thee a bun warmer.

When you find yourself ready for a permanent epithet — “the guy that dated/is dating (blank)” here are some words of wisdom about the Hopkins dating “scene.”

Make Your Assessments Wisely

Just because she's a girl at Hopkins doesn't mean she's an ugly Writing Sems. major in a sorority. A fair number of Computer Science majors are hiding under frat boy exteriors.

Majors aren't always as good a judge of character, and don't be afraid to go looking for love in your dorky extracurriculars, either. No one wants to admit it, but a surprising number of relationships have started in the library.

Juggle It- Just a Little Bit

So, you're in a relationship. Now comes the hard part. Relationships that last more than two or three weeks seem to fall into three categories, in order of commitment.

1. The un-relationship. It's a step beyond friends with benefits, with public affection and maybe a handholding here or there. You don't really see each

other during the day, but gosh darn it, he's the first person you call when you're drunk. Additional perks include, but are not limited to: brunch together, rides to the mall, and maybe a few free drinks. You're “involved,” but it sure as hell won't interfere with your library schedule.

2. Medium well. This is for big boys and girls who can learn to set priorities. A successful relationship at Hopkins involves compromise and communication, which are all too rare. With all of us so damn driven, it may take a deep look inside before we're ready to consider someone else's feelings for a change. So, think creatively: can you guys study together? Are you willing to sacrifice a happy hour or two to watch baseball? Keep these things in mind if you're going to play with others like an adult. It's an added pressure, but it's usually worth it

3. Richard Amy. Even though you know the guy down the hall in the AMRs has a roommate, you swear his girlfriend has moved in before the second month of school. Something about these types screams Macaulay Culkin relationship issues, but god bless 'em. They may not participate in much, they may not actually have other friends, but someone has to get married at 21, don't they?

Without mincing any more words, here are three more things to remember:

1. Don't waste college time thinking about life after college.
2. If your relationship is stressing you out more than any other area of your life, you need to take a step back.
3. And, post relationship, don't sweat a lack of activity — there is most definitely life beyond the Charles Village area.



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

How close is too close? Relationships at JHU require effort and perspective.

Say what? Making sense of Hopkins' affinity for acronyms

By Xiao-Bo Yuan

So you say you chose Hopkins for the academics. Well, think again, young grasshopper. At the end of the day, what's really important is knowing obscure acronyms and incomprehensible jargon—and Hopkins has more than the CIA. Here's the *News-Letter's* guide to talking like a Jay.

AC

When you realize that holding back yawns during class isn't working your glutes, the AC, or Athletic Center, will come in handy. With tons of gym equipment, a climbing wall, and basketball courts, it's like it doesn't want you to gain the "freshman fifteen."

AcPro

Academic Probation, or what happens if your GPA falls below 2.0. If you find yourself getting suspiciously excellent at Snood, watch out for this.

AMRs

Alumni Memorial Residences, the dorms that most freshmen will either call "home," or "that place where my buddy found a blow-up doll in the ceiling." The most social of the dorms, the AMRs are divided into houses with names like Gildersleeve and Griffin, so you can continue pretending you're Harry Potter.

APTT

A Place to Talk. Located in AMR I, it's where you'll find friendly peer counselors when your roommate is tired of

hearing how you haven't had a date since the Clinton Administration.

Arts & Crafts

The name each engineer will call the School of Arts and Sciences at least once in their four (or five, or six) years, only to find themselves hanging from a lamppost by their underwear shortly after.

Bawlmer'

Hands down the Greatest City in America™ for false advertising on park benches. Now that it's your new home, love it, respect it and stop pretending it has three syllables.

The Beach

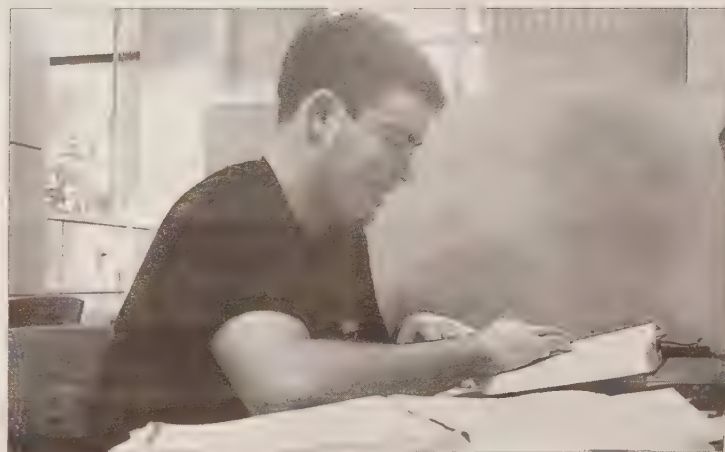
That giant lawn in front of the MSE Library where hot co-eds graze when the weather is good.

Beirut

Also known as beer pong, this drinking game originated in Micronesia, where tribal warriors sought to impress potential mates by aiming small spheres at open, liquid-filled cups. Now the frats carry on this proud tradition, except trashed and with a lot more unnecessary high-fiving.

Bloomberg

As in Michael, the billionaire New York mayor, 1964 alum and big-time JHU donor. The School of Public Health, among other things, is named after him. While efforts to institute



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

Senior Aaron Seider avoids the depths of D-Level, the lowest level of MSE.

annual animal sacrifices to the man are still under review, most students honor Bloomberg by making out in the space observatory he paid for.

BoE

The Board of Elections, a subgroup of the Student Council responsible for running campus elections, and notorious for bringing Florida's shining standards to Homewood. But we're (cautiously) optimistic they'll step it up this year.

Brody

The man, the myth, the President. Some say he is a highly advanced animatron. But what does the *News-Letter* know anyway?

BMA

The Baltimore Museum of Art, on the south side of campus. With free admission for Hopkins students, there's no excuse to be uncultured.

BME

Biomedical Engineering, a program that induces more sweating than the AC. Most majors drop out by sophomore year. You'll spot the ones who don't by their paleness and twitching.

Breezeway

The archway and stairs separating lower and upper quads. Groups there ambush you with flyers, but it's a fine place to hear about events and express your non-apatetic indignation about...stuff.

Cafe Q

Some dork from the medical school told me caffeine isn't for mainlining, so I guess I'll have to switch to drinking it instead. And so can you, at this coffee shop on M-Level of the MSE Library.

Charles Village Project

A long-term construction plan meant to improve the area around Homewood by adding more student-friendly attractions, like restaurants, shops, a real bookstore and a massive moon bounce blasting European techno all the damn day long. Guess which one of those is hypothetical.

CollTown Shuttle

When one institution is just not exciting enough, this shuttle service takes you from JHU to surrounding schools. Oh, and don't forget your I.D.

CVP

Charles Village Pub, the popular bar on St. Paul Street where you'll find booze, food and, if you're lucky, drunk TAs.

CONDOM

Is it a bird? A plane? A prophylactic? No, it's the all-girls College of Notre Dame of Maryland, a Catholic school to the north of campus. To the best of my knowledge they do not come in ribbed.

D-Level

The lowest level of the MSE Library, where you'll have the unique experience of cramming for finals three inches above the earth's core.



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

Stroll in the BMA's sculpture garden on a sunny day. Be cultured. Get tan.

Death Lane

As the only southbound lane on Charles Street, it's closed at all times except for morning rush hour. Someone gets hit every year. Look both ways, kids.

Diff EQ

Differential Equations, both a really hard math class and a way for sexually frustrated engineers to express their masculinity, as in: "Dude, I rat-a-tat-tapped that DifEQ test like—[insert mimed demonstration]."

E-Level

The student union located in Levering Hall, where you can watch all the cable movies you want while pretending to be Black Widow at the pool table and play video games.

Gatehouse

Standing proud at the corner of North Charles and Art Museum Drive, the *News-Letter's* headquarters is a dilapidated green playhouse for some of the downright foxiest people on campus. Visit! Bring speed!

HAC Lab

Homewood Academic Computing Lab. Serving your 24-hour porn needs, except for a brief cleaning slot on Sunday mornings, when you'll just have to browse your roommate's stash.

Hop Cops

The indispensable security guards who'll give you rides when the shuttle doesn't come, open your door when you're locked out in your jammies, and protect you from the big bad world. Plus, those little vans they drive? So cute.

The Hut

So you're having problems with the MSE Library—it's not there for you past 2 a.m. and, to be honest, it's a little frigid. Who do you run to? Why, the Alfred A. Hutzler Library in Gilman Hall, of course! Accessible 24 hours a day and sweltering, just the way you like it.

IAP

It's an election year, so what better time to take Introduction to American Politics, taught by the entertainingly sarcastic Professor Benjamin Ginsberg?

IFP

Introduction to Fiction and Poetry, a required class for all Writing Seminars majors. If your creative ego's looking a bit hardy these days, go give it a good spanking there.

IR

International Relations, a combina-

tion of history, political science, economics, and foreign language, and one of the most popular majors at Hopkins. Ambitious majors can apply to the 5-year BA/MA program that takes you to SAIS (Hopkins' School of Advanced International Studies, in D.C.). Or you could just focus your skills on yelling at Bill O'Reilly.

Lax

I can't believe it's not football! Yes, lacrosse, our only Division I sport and the reason homecoming is in the spring.

MCATs

The very sound of this word should dampen the armpits of any red-blooded premed. Oh, the MCATs. A Western tradition rooted in pain, much like the guillotine and the Spanish Inquisition. What can I say? Enjoy.

MICA

Maryland Institute, College of Art. Students at this nearby art school know how to draw purty pictures, and probably pierce more things than you do. Artsy Hopkins students can sign up for courses there after freshman year.

MSE

Milton S. Eisenhower, the man who was president of Hopkins while his brother was president of the U.S. How do you figure that little competition played out at family reunions? A lot is named after Good Ole Milton around here, including the main library and the fall symposium, which has featured speakers like Michael Moore and Nelson Mandela. Beat that, Dwight.

The News-Letter

You're tenderly caressing it right now. No, the paper.

Orgo

Organic Chemistry. Come sophomore year, you might be whimpering this in your sleep.

Peabody

Hopkins's prestigious music conservatory in Mt. Vernon. Like Julliard without the nice city.

Phys. Found.

Physiological Foundations, a brutal ritual for junior BMEs and ranked one of the toughest courses in the country. This class has been scientifically proven to increase the whine level on campus by up to 35 percent.

PJ's

If you're looking to check out lacrosse players outside of the WaWa basement, PJs, a bar connected to the

Charles building, is rife with them and other guys whose necks are wider than their heads. Also available: delicious food for those drunk enough to have lost all sensation in their tongues.

Rape Steps

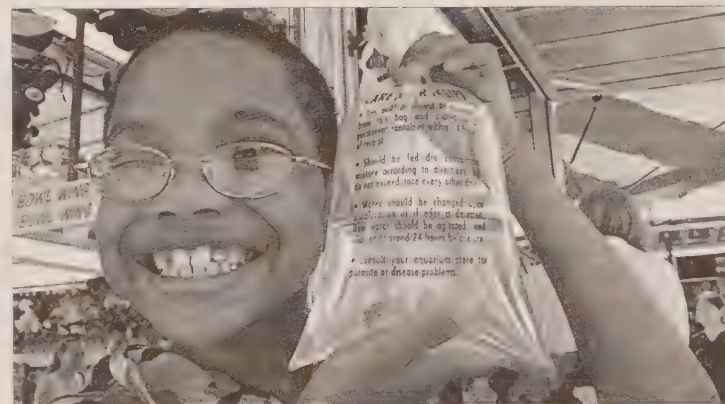
How's this for a cheery campus legend? Word has it that the stairs leading from N. Charles to the freshman quad are made for a woman's stride so she can outrun potential rapists. Ladies, another excuse for you to do the chasing.

RoFo

The beloved convenience store that was located on the corner of 33rd and Saint Paul Streets and is now just a bunch of construction scrapple, thanks to the Charles Village Project. But people will probably be reminiscing about the fried chicken and stabbings for years to come.

Rotunda

Shopping plaza with a Giant, Rite Aid, Radio Shack, cinema and, most prominently, large quantities of sucktitude.



DEVRA GOLDBERG/FILE PHOTO

You'll be all smiles for community-based, student-run Spring Fair weekend.

which is now a word, thank you.

SAC

Student Activities Commission, the body that distributes funds among campus groups. If you're in Sci-fi Club, for instance, they determine how many times you can rent "Star Trek: Voyager" and pronounce it "galactically awesome" in Klingon.

Schnapp Shop

Is radioactive-blue vodka missing from your life? Located on the corner of Calvert and 30th Streets, the Schnapp Shop beckons with that and much more. Get those fake Texan driver's licenses ready, and ye shall receive.

Sketchy

An adaptable Baltimore adjective suitable for whatever's odd or shady—a Hampden guy pulling beer around in a stroller, for instance, or any food

product that comes out of a frat house fridge. Don't think you can refer to someone as His Sketchalency? You haven't been in Baltimore long enough.

Spring Fair

Every spring, Hopkins hosts a weekend full of craft booths, rides, a beer garden, and concerts by major bands, like Blackalicious and Guster. Topping all of that, however, is the chance to walk around with giant turkey legs and deep-fried Oreos without being in Texas or at a medieval fest. Good times.

StuCo

The Student Council. Last winter, a freshman overthrew their Constitution, and now they're revamped, reorganized, and somehow still without an elected president. Stay tuned.

Throat

Short for "cutthroats," or kids who'll do anything, maybe short of a sex-change operation, for an A. Supposedly, we have some here at Hopkins. But don't repeat

that, or I'll steal your chemistry book and pull the fire alarm, freshy.

Uni-Mini

University Mini-Mart, another soon-to-be-doomed store on 33rd Street. Enjoy the falafel while you can.

WaWa

The Alpha Delta Phi fraternity, currently located above Uni-Mini, which used to be a WaWa store—see the connection? This frat is known for its football meatheads, crazy shenanigans and way with a cooler of Jungle Juice.

WJHU

In terms of the great college radio tradition, Hopkins is a bit lax (haha, get it? Shut up, crickets). The student-run radio station is only available online, has a sporadic audience and is far from a trendsetter. But it's better than nothing.

Few 'typical' sorority girls at JHU, but plenty of fun-loving sisters

By Jess Youdin

Think sorority life. If you are picturing Elle Woods, think again.

A Johns Hopkins sorority may seem like the biggest oxymoron of them all. After all, if Hopkins is a school known for brilliant, "introverted" kids, why does it even have Greek life? Or more importantly, does anyone participate?

The answer is "yes." Many girls at Hopkins give sororities a try, and most find it to be a worthwhile experience.

For those of you still not convinced, keep reading. There are three types of women reading this article. The first kind consists of southern belles who have been counting down ever since they discovered the very meaning of a sorority.

The next type thinks that sororities are filled with ditzzy, promiscuous girls who need to pay for friends.

The last type are the swing voters, who still don't know if sororities are for them.

Well I was the third prototype, my roommate the first, and the president of my sorority the second. Go figure.

It's time to let go of your preconceived notions. You will find that Hopkins is an unusual place. Upon first impression, many of you may claim that Hopkins is "boring" or the people are "strange."

Truthfully, Hopkins students are not any different from the kids at your high school. Yes, there are more than a few who stay in and study excessively, but then there are "the others." These are people who love to socialize and have fun, many (but certainly not all) of whom are active in Greek life here at Hopkins.

There are four major sororities on campus that are part of the National Panhellenic Conference: Alpha Phi, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Kappa Alpha Theta and Phi Mu. In case you aren't versed in Greek, Alpha Phi is pronounced Alpha Phee, "Kappa" for Kappa Kappa Gamma, "Theta" for Kappa Alpha Theta, and Phi Mu, pronounced FI Mu (Mu rhymes with you).

I promise that each sorority contains amazing women. The sororities slightly

differ, however, and for several reasons. You can inquire about this by asking upper classmen. Overall, they all promise lots of laughs, fun times and a photo album full of great memories.

The major sororities each contain about one hundred girls. There is an executive staff and each sorority has one president. All of the sororities have their own secret rituals, symbols and values.

You will see tons of people on campus sporting their letters and wearing their colors. Don't hesitate to walk over to someone wearing sorority apparel; they want to talk to you.

Each year sororities are excited about the prospect of new sisters. Contrary to popular belief, eventually older girls love freshman. Not initially, to be totally honest, but eventually. Let's face it, think about when you were seniors in high school and freshmen set foot on "your territory."

This whole notion fades, especially closer to sorority season. Ages tend to blend at Hopkins. Older girls are really close to younger girls, many of the friendships spurring from simply being in the same sorority.

Your whole knowledge of the sorority process will be acquired mainly by word of mouth. For now, however, you might as well know the basics.

For the four main sororities, you will go through what is known as the "rush process" in the spring semester. This process takes about one week. Over the course of the year, if you are

interested, you should attend sorority events that you see advertised around campus.

Many will have an open hot chocolate and s'mores gathering, cookie baking or movie night. If you want to be in a sorority, your goal should be to meet as many sisters as possible.

This way, when rush comes, you have a better idea of the type of girls each sorority is comprised of. By the time you get to rush, you will already have some sense of where you want to join.

The rush process allows you to spend a little bit of time with each



DENISE TERRY/FILE PHOTO

Theta sister Nicole Seltman plays in Greek Week's powderpuff football game.

sorority by having one-on-one time with a few of the sisters. The process consists of a series of "parties." The parties contain the girls rushing and the sisters. In the beginning of the week you visit with all of the sororities. Your choice then narrows to three and eventually two.

By the end of the week, most people are debating between their final two. One important thing to remember about the rush process is that it is mutual. The girls are judging whether you would be a good fit for their organization, just as you are deciding if a sorority is right for you.

On the final night of rush you attend your last two parties. Later that night you vote which sorority you want to put first, second, and so on.

The process may sound intimidating, but it's not. We are not the Deep South. This means two things: you are not judged primarily on your appearance and you don't have to go around to twelve mansions and have girls stare you up and down as you uncomfortably move about the house. In fact, only Phi Mu has a house on campus and the rush process does not take place there.

In addition to these four, Hopkins has several other sororities. Delta Sigma Theta and Sigma Gamma Rho are two historically African-American

groups belonging to the National Panhellenic Council (NP-HC), which coordinates the nation's African-American sororities and fraternities. Alpha Kappa Delta Phi and Sigma Omicron Phi are Asian-interest sororities at Hopkins. Hispanic-oriented Latinas Promoviendo Comunidad became an official sorority last academic year and a multicultural sorority, Delta Chi Phi, gained approval just last spring.

Recruitment for these groups does not necessarily happen in the spring and Delta Sigma Theta and Sigma Gamma Rho are participating in an NP-HC group showcase for any interested students next Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the glass pavilion.

In summary, sororities at Hopkins are a bunch of girls who love having a great time. And besides being fun, they are an incredible support system. Ask any "sorority girl" on campus and they will tell you the same thing.

Once you are in a sorority, it's all about having ninety-nine new friends. The sororities are not consumed with how they look, so do not associate your stereotypical picture of a sorority with the ones at Hopkins.

They are like the girls you were friends with in high school—great girls who are here to make your Hopkins experience not only memorable, but one hell of a good time.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

VOLUME CIX, Issue 1

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

SEPTEMBER 2, 2004

Dean of Whiting School chosen

XIAO-BO YUAN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

After a nine-month selection process, the Hopkins Board of Trustees approved the appointment of Dr. Nicholas P. Jones as the fourth dean of the White School of Engineering. Jones, who served as a member of the Whiting faculty from 1986 to 2002, officially began his tenure as dean on Aug. 15.

Jones will permanently replace Interim Dean Daniel Douglas, who has served since last November, when a primary candidate opted out of the position and spurred an unexpectedly long search process.

Praised by Douglas as having "extraordinary energy" and by Provost Steven Knapp for being "committed to students," Jones stated that his overarching goal for the Whiting School was to create a unique experience for students.

"I would like Hopkins education to be recognized nationally as producing 'distinctly Hopkins' graduates," Jones said, "who are educated as future leaders through the breadth and depth of experiences they have had during their time at JHU, both in the classroom and outside the formal class environment."

Having spent the past two years as the head of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Jones admitted to initially resisting the call to vacate his former position and return to Baltimore. He was lured back, however, by his memory of experiences on the Whiting faculty.

"Being away for the past two years, I really did realize what a special place Johns Hopkins is, and the opportunity to come back in the leadership position as Dean was a significant one," Jones said. "There are not many opportuni-

CONTINUED ON PAGE A5



COURTESY OF ALEX BRADLEY
Chris Elser died this past April.

Elser case faces setbacks

BY ERIC RIDGE

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

After announcing in July that they were holding a "person of interest" in connection with the murder of Christopher Elser, Baltimore City Police officials now concede that they do not expect to file charges against that man.

"The person is less interesting

than we originally thought," said Detective Vernon Parker, the lead investigator in the case. "We are kind of back to square one."

This most recent setback marks another obstacle in the investigation, which has already been hampered by the lack of evidence or witnesses.

"We don't have anything quite like this," he said, referring to the

unique difficulties that this case has presented investigators. Even though police have followed a number of leads, Parker said, none has drawn them closer to solving the case.

The stabbing occurred on a Saturday morning in mid-April in a house on the 2900 block of St. Paul Street. Elser, who did not live in

CONTINUED ON PAGE A3



COURTESY OF HOPKINS OFFICE OF NEWS AND INFORMATION
Construction on Charles Commons will begin after the demolition of Ivy Hall, slated for next week.

Charles Village work approaches

Deadline for Charles Commons building set for fall 2006

BY FRANCESCA HANSEN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Construction on Hopkins' long-awaited Charles Commons broke ground this week, a few months later than expected.

Situated on the Northeast quadrant of the intersection of 33rd Street and N. Charles Street, the two buildings will primarily consist of student housing and will include a cafeteria and student lounge area, as well as meeting areas. Should construction proceed according to plan, the facility will be open for the fall of 2006.

"We were holding our breath during the last weeks of the semester, hoping we could actually initiate construction," said

Paula Burger, Vice Dean of Undergraduate Education.

Burger attributed some initial slowdowns for the project to hazard mitigation such as asbestos clearing before demolition. As it stands now, construction leaders are waiting for the final removal of electricity by Baltimore Gas & Electric, planned for Sept. 3. Demolition will then begin "on or around Sept. 7," according to Dave McDonough, senior director of development oversight for Johns Hopkins Real Estate.

The wrecking ball and demolition crews will be readying the site for the new foundations to be laid sometime in November, McDonough said. With construction under way for almost

two years, McDonough said one of the largest immediate concerns was pedestrian safety. The trailers and barriers encircling the construction area have closed off the sidewalks of East 33rd Street and the West side of St. Paul, a barrier that may prove hazardous for pedestrians.

"We hope students will be cautious — we just do not want students to walk on the streets. We just urge students to please be careful there," Burger said. Hopkins has recently gained approval to create a makeshift sidewalk out of concrete barriers, or "Jersey walls," to funnel pedestrians out of harm's way. In the meantime, a flagman engaged by Hopkins

CONTINUED ON PAGE A4

Freshmen raise JHU standards

BY JULIANNA FINELLI

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

While this year's 1,078-member freshman class is the biggest and most selective yet, the number of accepted students who chose to enroll is slightly lower than last year. According to University spokesman Dennis O'Shea, this dip "is occurring at universities across the country," especially the more selective institutions.

Hopkins accepted 3,324 of its 11,105 applicants for the Class of 2008, setting a record-low acceptance rate of 28.4 percent — 1.2 percent lower than last year's 29.6 percent rate. But the yield, or number of students accepted who chose to enroll, was 31 percent, compared to last year's 35 percent yield. O'Shea said this drop could be due to the fact that students are applying to more colleges, a trend that lowers the overall yield for each individual school.

Geoffrey Witham, online counseling coordinator for Omni College Counseling, agreed. "Students are canvassing colleges with applications ... the average student is applying to 10 [schools] or more," he said.

Another possible explanation, according to O'Shea, is that less-selective schools are offering more appealing financial packages, enticing students who may have otherwise attended a more selective university.

"We've had a good four or five years of a soft economy," Witham said. "More students could be

CONTINUED ON PAGE A5



A landmark building near Peabody will be available for housing.
NATE BATES/NEWS-LETTER

JHU acquires Mt. Vernon building

BY JEFF KATZENSTEIN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

A landmark building in Mt. Vernon which once served as lodging for wealthy travelers and celebrities is now a home for Hopkins students.

Stafford Apartments, located only a block from Peabody at 716 N. Washington Pl., overlooks the historic Washington Monument in Mt. Vernon.

The university purchased the Stafford in an effort to provide upper-classmen and graduate students with affordable housing in the area. While Peabody guarantees housing for freshmen and sophomores in its one residence hall, most juniors

and seniors move off campus into apartments or town houses.

Associate Dean of Student Affairs Emily Frank said that this acquisition involved quite a bit of foresight. "In our area, property values are going up because Mt. Vernon is a highly desirable neighborhood. We wanted to ensure that Peabody students had good, affordable housing," explained Frank.

About two years ago, David McDonough, Senior Director of Development Oversight for Johns Hopkins Real Estate, and Peabody Director Robert Sirota, began dis-

cussing the issue of student housing in the area.

In addition, market studies were performed during the course of the Stafford deal, comparing the market around and outside of Peabody.

"As [Sirota] had expected, things were getting much tighter and it would be much more diffi-

cult for Hopkins to control its own destiny in the housing marketplace," noted McDonough.

Formerly known as the Stafford Hotel, the building was constructed in 1894 and designed by architect Charles E. Cassell, whose work includes many religious, commercial and residential buildings in Baltimore. When it originally opened

in November of the same year, it was considered one of the finest in the city.

In the early 20th Century, the hotel accommodated wealthy and famous guests including F. Scott Fitzgerald, whose wife Zelda was being treated at the Phipps Psychiatric Clinic at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Once bigger hotels in the city were built in the middle of the century, however, the hotel became more of a family destination.

Finally, in 1972, the building's

Elser family establishes memorial scholarship

BY BRENDAN SCHREIBER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

To honor the life of slain student Christopher Elser, who lost his life last year following a break-in at his residence on Saint Paul Street, his family has established an endowment fund in support of a memorial scholarship in his name. Once sufficient funding is accumulated, the Christopher B. Elser Scholarship will annually recognize "a bright and talented student who shares Chris's passion for athletics and dedication to community," according to the scholarship's documentation.

Since Elser's untimely passing, family and friends have initiated an effort to raise money to create the scholarship. Since that time, they've raised "a great bit of money, just from people who knew Chris," said Director of Development in the School of Arts and Sciences.

Elser lost his life April 18 after he was attacked and stabbed by an intruder at about 6 a.m. following a party at the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity house on the 2900 block of Saint Paul Street. The encounter occurred only two hours after a party held at the house ended. Shock Trauma physicians could not save Elser after hours of medical efforts.

In keeping with the oft-noted sentiment that Elser was a compassionate student-athlete of character, the scholarship's criteria compile a summation of general versatility. The need-based award is intended for an upper-classman dedicated to academics, athletics, friends and the surrounding community, though Rubin said it will not necessarily be limited to student-athletes.

"I think that, with the way we have it set up, we're first going to be looking for the kids who most reflect Chris' overall persona; someone who best reflects the characteristics of Chris, who was a bright, talented and athletically inclined student at Hopkins."

For the time being, many of the scholarship's logistics are still being worked out. The projected date of the first award is still unknown and depends on how much money is raised and how soon.

Additionally, the exact amount awarded to the scholarship recipient also has not yet been determined, as it depends on the success of fund-raising efforts.

Rhetta Elser, Christopher's mother, said that the goal is \$100,000 to start with. "Then we're hoping to raise dividends and interest beyond that," she said. "We haven't set a deadline on the end of

the scholarship, and at a later date we will determine — even if we raise \$100,000 — how much we as a family can put into the fund."

Scholarships are created as endowment funds within the university; the funds then earn an annual income over time. Because the fund must reach an eventual starting point, the Office of Financial Aid does not have an offi-

cial figure at this point.

Rubin hopes that the first award will take place within this calendar year. "We are looking forward to it absolutely as soon as possible."

Before more definite numbers and dates can be determined, the scholarship must reach a certain point in its development when enough money has been raised to

CONTINUED ON PAGE A3

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF
THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
[HTTP://WWW.JHUNEWLETTER.COM](http://www.jhunewsletter.com)

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editors-in-Chief	Maany Peyvan, Eric Ridge
Marketing Director	Greg Hein, Ken Lee
Managing Editors	Jeff Katzenstein, Sarah Rivard
Business Managers	Anna Cho, Catherine Chen
Photography Editors	Nathan Bates, Denise Terry
Copy Editors	Julianna Finelli, Xiao-Bo Yuan
Special Edition/Focus Editors	Melissa Artnak, Gina Callahan
News Editors	Brendan Schreiber
Opinions Editor	Francesca Hansen
Features Editor	Carter Cramer, Jessica Youdin
Sports Editors	Allan Soto, Jon Zimmer
Arts Editors	Roy Blumenfeld, Robbie Whelan
Science Editor	Emily Nalven
Events Editor	John Lichtefeld
Electronic Editions Editor	Zach Scott
Graphics Editor	William Parschalk

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter is published every Thursday during the academic year by the students of The Johns Hopkins University with the exception of holidays, exam periods and vacations. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the editorial board. All submissions become property of the News-Letter.

Business hours are Mondays through Fridays, 1-5 p.m. The deadline for advertisements is 5 p.m. on the Tuesday before the Thursday of publication. Subscriptions are available to our readers for \$35 per semester, \$60 for the full academic year. The total circulation to the local campuses of Johns Hopkins (Homewood, Medical School and Hospital, Peabody, Downtown Center), area colleges and the greater Baltimore region is 6,000.

©2003 The Johns Hopkins News-Letter. No material in this issue may be reproduced without the expressed, written permission of the Editors-in-Chief.

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

The Gatehouse (corner of N. Charles St. and Art Museum Dr.)

Mailing Address:
Levering Suite 102
The Johns Hopkins University
3400 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

Main Phone Number: 410-516-6000
Business/Advertising: 410-516-4228
Fax Number: 410-516-6565
E-mail: News.Letter@jhu.edu
<http://www.jhunewsletter.com/>

Police 'back to square one' in Elser case

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

the house but had traded rooms with a friend for the night, was sleeping in a bedroom when an intruder entered the house through an unlocked rear door. Police believe that the intruder startled Elser and that he fought his attacker before being stabbed once in the chest and the left arm. He was rushed to Maryland Shock Trauma Center where he died as a result of his wounds the following day. Police have indicated that Elser was the only occupant of the house to see the attacker. Although he said that his attacker was a black man, Elser did not give any further description and police did not have a chance to interview him before he died.

In the hours following the stabbing, police deployed their crime lab to the scene to gather evidence. Investigators interviewed and then re-interviewed people who were in the house at the time of the stabbing. A few days later, police deployed the mobile crime unit as well as canine and mounted officers to reassure citizens and to help them feel comfortable with providing any information they had about the case. They also passed out leaflets in Charles Village asking anyone with information to come forward.

In the weeks after the murder, detectives searched police reports

hoping to find similar robberies in the area. Parker said that although they found residential, dorm and fraternity break-ins sharing some similarities, nothing has led them to the killer.

In what they thought could be their most promising lead, police also uncovered surveillance footage that was taken near the crime scene shortly before the murder. The video, which lasted about 25 minutes, showed a man looking into at least one building. In June, police released that video to the media in hopes of gaining public attention and getting leads. They also announced a \$50,000 reward for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person who killed Elser.

After the video's release, police received several tips which led them to a man who was already being held in unrelated charges. Police interviewed the man who fit the description of the person seen in the surveillance footage.

"The video was at the time, we thought significant," Parker said.

However, the grainy quality made it difficult for identification. Police efforts to tie the man to the murder were unsuccessful.

Now, over four months following the incident, Parker says that he is still hopeful that the case can be solved but that the odds are getting longer.

"At this juncture it is difficult but not impossible," he said.

"Every murder investigation is different and we never stop," Baltimore City Police Public Information Officer Nicole Monroe said. "It's why we don't just have a homicide section, we have a cold case homicide section," she said.

The fact that this case has not been switched to the cold case

unit, a designation that police make on a case by case basis, means that investigators still believe that they have a chance of closing the case, Monroe said.

Investigators hope that the start of the school year will jog people's memories about anything that they saw on the morning that Elser was killed.

"I guess we're hoping that kids

on campus will keep their eyes and ears open," he said.

"It might not mean anything to you but might mean something to the detectives," Monroe said.

Detectives caution that while cases like Elser's may not have any promising leads, they are often solved with only one tip.

"We're still a phone call away," Parker said.

Scholarship honors slain student-athlete

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A2

continue awarding it well into the future, with appropriate annual support.

However, much of the fieldwork has been undertaken by the Elser family, who are raising money back in South Carolina and beyond.

"[The Elsers] are spreading the word," Rubin said. "They have many friends and know many people in the horse-breeding business, who have been putting notices about [the scholarship] in newsletters and bringing it up in annual events."

"We're going about fundraising from two different directions," Rhett Elser said. Christopher's father trains, buys and sells racehorses, and he has business associates who were friends with Chris. Together they are reaching out to the horse racing community. With some friends of mine here in Camden I sent out a letter to about 300 people we know in the community asking for as

much money as they are willing to give."

She noted that many people who did not know her son or her family were anxious to contribute, and some even came directly to their home to provide support.

Though the Elser family has taken on the responsibility of accumulating funding, they will not be on the nominating committee, which ultimately chooses who receives the award.

Elser's father, Kip, said, "Chris's friends will be on the nominating committee and we're hoping that they will pass it down from year to year. That way the scholarship is basically by the students, for the students."

For more information on the Christopher B. Elser Scholarship and to find the official description, visit Johns Hopkins news releases at http://www.jhu.edu/news_info/news.

To inquire about supporting the Christopher B. Elser Scholarship, contact Rubin at (410) 516-8722.

Looking for something fun to do?

Need cash?

You can earn \$200-\$800 per week!

Hourly wage plus commission and bonuses!

Work part time evenings and Saturday-
set your own schedule!

Work 12-25 hours per week

in a friendly environment.

Must be outgoing, personable, and enthusiastic!

Call Alex ASAP- filling up quickly!

410-832-5559

HOMEFIX

A Sales and Marketing Company

Charles Village Project breaks ground

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1
perches on the Southeast corner of Charles and 33rd Streets to warn Hopkins of the dangers of the road.

Another construction concern is the noise that will fill the area in the upcoming years. "You can't build buildings without a certain level of activity," Burger said.

Students living in the Charles and Blackstone buildings overlooking the site can expect some what modified hours of construction, but construction will continue on an essentially normal construction schedule, with consideration for study hours. "We've told them we want them to respect our exam schedule," Burger said.

As for the interior of the buildings, the design team is well underway deciding the details and finishing touches to the community spaces and eating areas of the new complex.

However, they must juggle budget restraints, creative input and student feedback. Burger said that the compromises have been minor so far, "Like the grade of a kitchen counter — you can't have everything."

Additionally, much of the

planning so far is conceptual, with the final details to be hashed out over the course of the next two years.

"The message all along has been to provide a sense of community and create a space where people can come together, as well as a sense of privacy and daily amenities," Burger said.

At the suggestion of the Student Council, for example, stovetops have been installed in meeting rooms. While crude sketches of the lounging spaces have met with positive reviews by students, Burger said they are working toward having the more specific plans reviewed by the entire student population in the upcoming weeks.

Ideas are still in flux for a food service area on 33rd Street that would accommodate changing needs of students, from day to night and from summer to winter.

It is unclear whether the convenience station will be serviced by Sodexho, an external contractor or a combination of the two.

For breakfast, for example, Burger said Sodexho might be able to fill students' needs. "If Sodexho could provide that level of muffin, it might be that Sodexho would provide that," she said.

The message all along has been to provide a sense of community and create a space where people can come together.

— VICE DEAN FOR UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION PAULA BURGER



ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

Charles Commons, including a new book store, a new dining facility, meeting areas and housing, will replace the buildings on the block north of 33rd Street between Charles and St. Paul Streets.

On campus, changes in the eating schedule are set to compensate for the closing of Royal Farms, the popular late night convenience store famed for its 24-hour fried chicken. Late night hours at MegaBytes and Wolman Grill are set to extend at least until midnight for the coming semester.

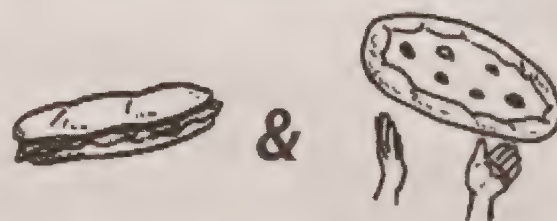
From the interior to construction changes, coordinators for the project are ready for a number of transformations before the project is entirely finished.

"Over the next 24 months, we'll have a lot of challenges between now and the finish line," McDonough said.

WELCOME BACK!

OPEN LATE

SUBWAY



JOE'S PUB

HAVE A GREAT YEAR

(410) 243-8844

New Peabody apartments open

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A2
117 guest rooms were converted to 94 apartment units for low-income residents.

Although the interior has been modernized, the historic architecture of the exterior remains, its Richardsonian style featuring a red stone and brick façade and pillars.

The University has performed extensive cosmetic repairs on the interior, including new carpeting, lighting, painting and vinyl floors in each room.

Next summer, even further repairs will be done, including elevator and plumbing work that will require residents to vacate their apartments for three months.

While the University purchased the building and refers students,

the apartments are being leased and managed by AIMCO, the largest owner/operator of apartment properties in the U.S. According to Building Manager Sabrina Carrington, the building will feature a complimentary continental breakfast on weekdays, in addition to hosting a number of dorm-style activities, such as an international cuisine night, a Mardi Gras party and a relaxation day.

The Stafford also offers furnished apartments and is equipped with security cameras and a keycard and buzzer access system. Twenty-four-hour maintenance is also available to all residents.

Because nine-month leases are currently the only type available, there are still about 60 open spots in

the building, which is giving preference to Hopkins students.

Rates range from \$669-\$894 for one-bedroom and \$919-\$1,079 for two bedrooms.

"We're very excited about this opportunity," said Frank. "It's a great idea to have available housing that is specifically tailored to the student population."

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Spring Break 2005. Travel with STS, America's #1 Student Tour Operator. Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas, Florida. Hiring campus reps. Call for discounts: 800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com.

Adv. Academic Prog. faces restructuring

BY XIAO-BO YUAN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Deborah Cebula, special assistant to Dean Daniel Weiss of the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, stepped down from her position as assistant dean of Advanced Academic Programs (AAP) in mid-July, and was replaced in the interim by John Bader, assistant dean of academic advising.

AAP, a division of Krieger, administers summer and intersession programs for undergraduates, as well as part-time Masters programs for graduate students.

Administrators plan to reexamine the organization of AAP, cut out the previous confusion of its coexisting undergraduate and graduate programs, and improve the division's ability to directly meet the needs of students.

"The problems have been subtle — AAP was running reasonably well. The issue is, what do we do next?" Bader said.

"Enrollment in part-time programs in biotechnology and communications have grown greatly, and the Baltimore-D.C. region has great need for those programs," Bader continued. "Sometimes in

periods of growth, we have a hard time catching up with it."

Both Bader and Weiss expressed concerns about the AAP's development of intersession and summer courses.

"My personal interest is in making sure that undergraduate programs get the leadership they deserve," Bader said. "Not every moment of the calendar has to be academic — that sounds awfully dull. We want to make intersession and summer more enriching and more fun."

Weiss suggested that intersession courses should never be what students "take to get out of the way."

"[Intersession] is a time to cultivate interests students have outside of regular coursework," he said.

The restructuring of AAP may also require a scaling back of its breadth of operations. Both Bader and Weiss suggested that undergraduate programs may be moved to other divisions of the school, with more involvement from individual departments.

"[Cebula] laid a solid foundation," Bader said, "and now we're just building it into what will hopefully be a rich, creative experiment."

Matriculation falls in '04

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1
opting for state schools than [for] private colleges. One in six students is saying, 'Cool, I got into Hopkins, but it's too expensive.'

"The old emphasis was on increasing applicants and decreasing the acceptance rate — now more attention [is paid] to yield ... [and] how to appeal to students who are interested in the school, not just the best students."

Although Director of Admissions

John Latting could not be reached for comment, O'Shea also said that recent efforts have focused heavily on increasing the number of minority students.

The percentage of minority students at Hopkins has indeed been rising, from eight percent in 2001 to 14 percent in 2002 and, finally, to last year's record-high of 15 percent. Although this year's minority percentage remained at 15 percent, O'Shea sees no cause for concern. "There's no indication of a plateau,"

he said. "It's still part of an upward trend."

The Class of 2008 is 54 percent male and 46 percent female, with 737 students in the School of Arts and Sciences and 350 students in the Whiting School of Engineering. The five states most represented, in order, are New Jersey, New York, Maryland, California and Pennsylvania, and the median SAT I combined score is 1400, up 10 points from last year's 1390.

"A GREAT EPIC FILM."

OWN IT TODAY

THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST

www.thepassionofthecrist.com

Former professor tapped as new Dean

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

ties that I would have left the headship of civil and environmental engineering at Illinois for, but Hopkins was certainly one."

In addition to serving as a civil engineering professor during his time at Whiting, Jones also chaired his department, was a member of the university's Committee for the 21st Century, chaired the committee's study group on undergraduate education, and participated in the Homewood Schools Academic Council.

During Jones's two years at the University of Illinois, the school's civil and environmental engineering department was consistently ranked among the nation's best.

Former interim dean Andrew Douglas expressed hopes that Jones would carry on several movements Douglas had emphasized during his brief term, including retaining faculty and ensuring that undergraduate education was the top priority.

Jones said, "We may have a year or two of fiscal conservatism."

"Interaction outside JHU is more important than ever," Jones

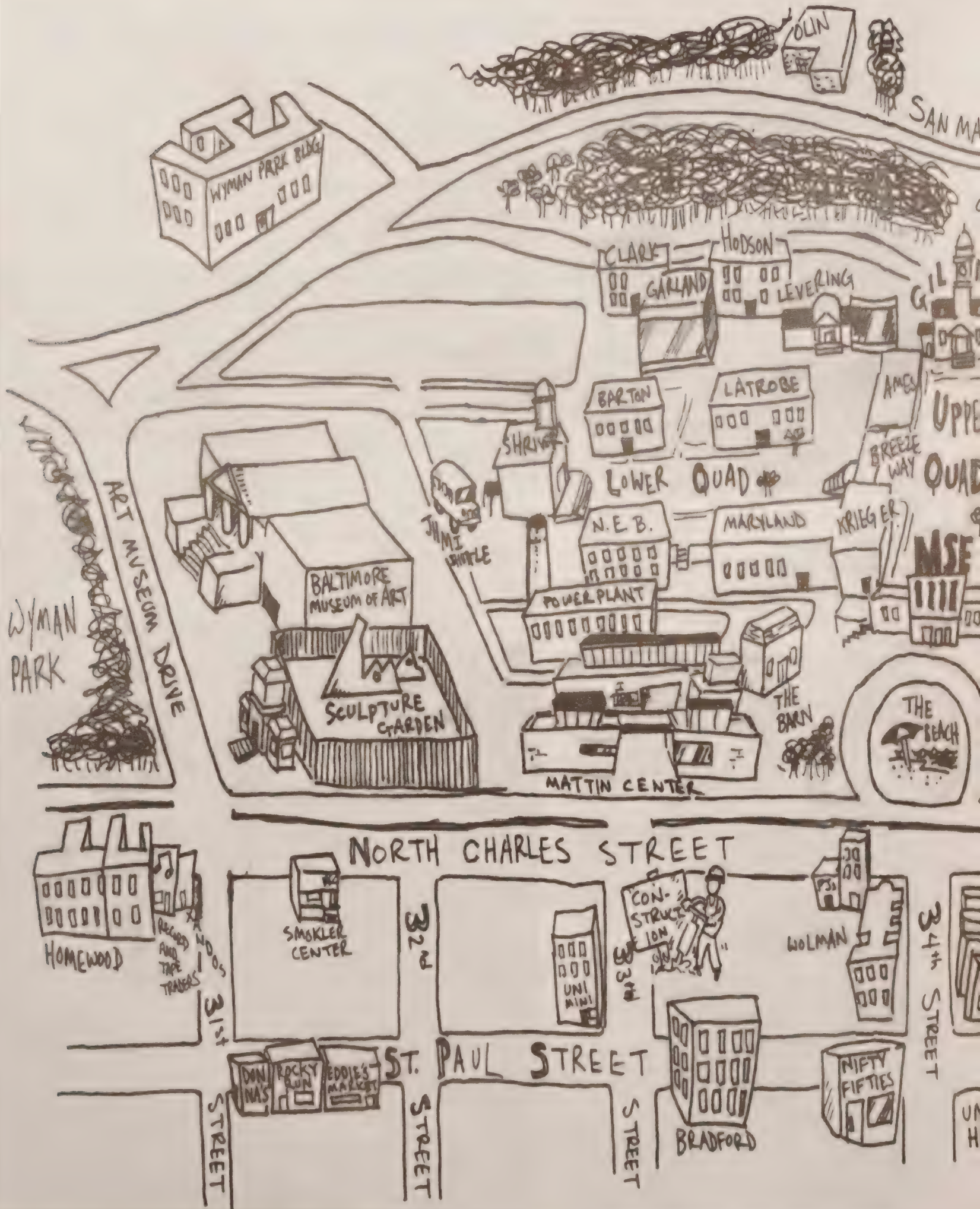
continued. "APL [Applied Physics Laboratory] will be a very important interaction. There are many opportunities in the region — the Montgomery County 'tech corridor' would be a good place to start."

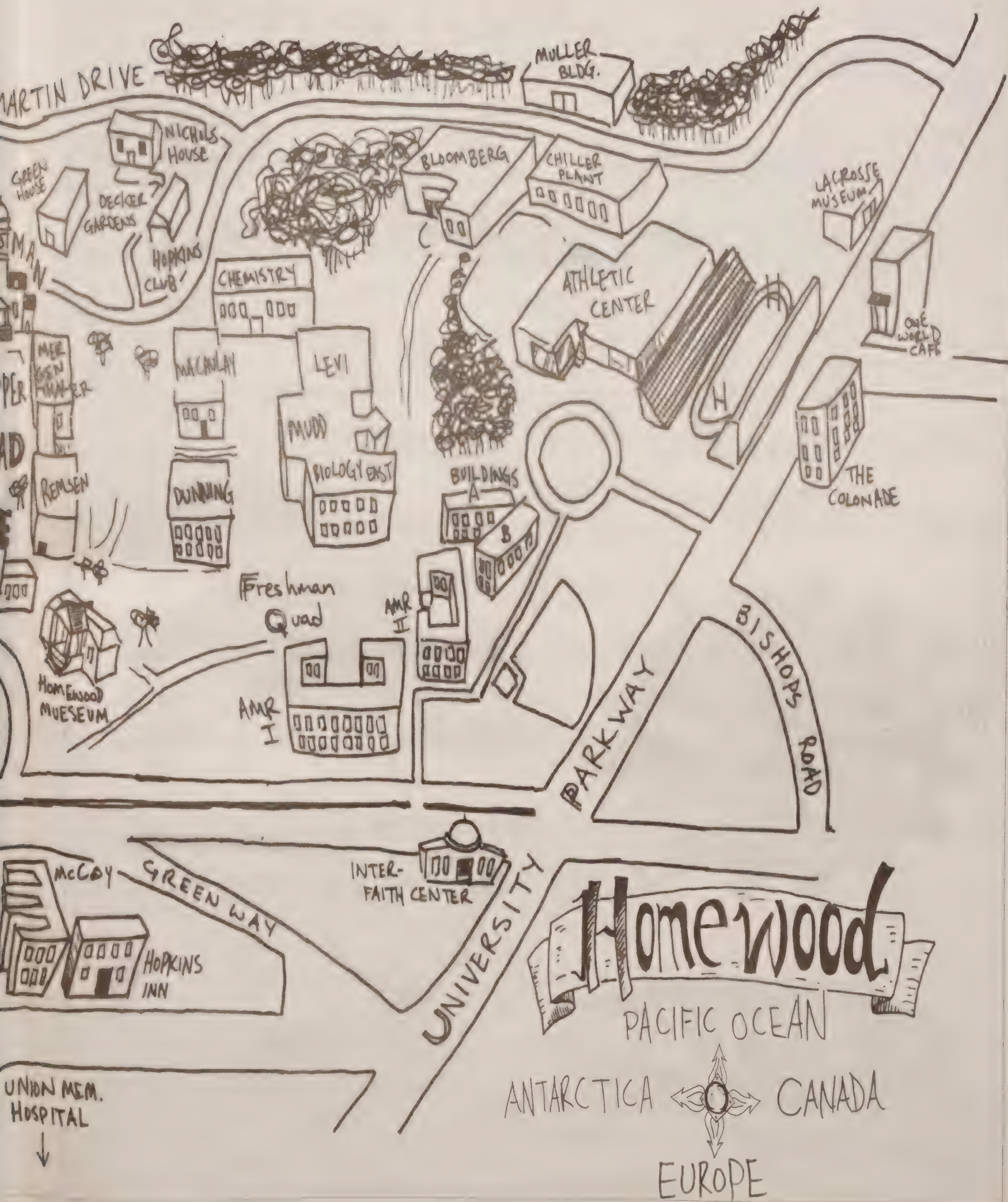
Provost Knapp, who led the search for the next Whiting dean, emphasized "leveraging" specific strengths within the departments as a way to develop Whiting, especially in the collaborative fields of fluid mechanics, tissue engineering and biomedical engineering.

"[Jones] is able to make decisions, and is a real faculty citizen," Knapp commented. "He has a very strong collaborative spirit and interest in diversifying faculty and students."

Jones's selection was conducted by a committee comprised of 15 appointed members, including one undergraduate and representatives from every engineering department.

Late last year, the committee also approved the recruitment of Baker Parker and Associates, a global search firm that specializes in generating lists of high-caliber candidates, as an outside aid.





Secrets to the MCAT and Medical School Admissions

Attend this FREE workshop and learn more about what to expect on the MCAT and what you need to do to be prepared. Also, get more information about the Medical School Admissions process and how to maximize your chances of being accepted into your top choice school!

Monday, September 20th

University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Commons Building

Enroll
between
Sept. 1 and
Sept. 30th and
receive
\$100 off!

**Wednesday,
September 29th**

Inn at the Colonnade
4 W. University Parkway

**Space is limited!
Call today to register!**



Test Prep and Admissions

1-800-KAP-TEST
kaptest.com/mcat

Brighten and innovate your look this season

As style addicts and gurus are well aware, the fashion crowd — designers, models, magazine editors, socialites and trendsetters — celebrates the New Year not in January, but September.

It's during this month that designers unveil their brand new collections and establish the trends for the upcoming year, inundating retail stores with an abundance of fresh must-have items.

And, fortunately for students, this New Year coincides perfectly with a very important annual rite: back-to-school shopping.

So, happy New Year! Let the purchasing begin.

First off, let us clarify a misconception held by far too many fall shoppers: In terms of clothing, back to school does not mean back to basics.

As a college student, you've well surpassed the age of hitting the local mall with mom to mindlessly accumulate a fresh supply of the monochromatic t-shirts and faded jeans you've been donning since the stone ages.

The right to a new fall wardrobe

does not give you the right to maintain your same old style of dress. Would you use the same toothbrush year after year or take the exact same classes each semester? And seriously, do you really want another Abercrombie Football t-shirt this fall? Like most commodities, style, too, has a shelf-life.

This year, shopping for your back to school wardrobe should be anything but perfunctory.

After all, fashion is about expression and showcasing the unique personality of the clothing's wearer. And, similar to the expression, "you are what you eat," the inverse applies to fashion: "you wear what you are."

Thus, if you're wearing the same A&F t-shirt and faded

jeans sported by every other person your age, you're basically portraying to those around you that you're a follower lacking any sense of individuality.

Moreover, while it may seem shallow and cliché, it is irrefutably true that first impressions

are lasting. Even if it's subconscious, those around you will incorporate the way in which you're dressed into their snap judgment of you.

So keep this in mind as you back-to-school shop this year. Embrace your individuality and break free from your traditional dressing habits.

Allow your personality, thoughts and opinions to express themselves through your clothing. Perhaps even make a list of adjectives that best characterize you, then search for clothes

that represent those words.

However you choose to reinvent your sense of style and reveal your personality this fall, here are a few trends bound to tip the hotness meter this season.

Among the most coveted pieces for fall are, once again, anything and everything with color! From bright purple at Yves Saint Laurent to neon green by Nike Collection, t-shirts, jackets, shoes and even pants this season are bright and bold.

However, bright and bold only works in moderation, with, say, an accompanying pair of basic black trousers to offset a brightly-colored shirt.

Try wearing a pair of fitted black pants and sports coat, guys and girls alike, with a fire truck-red t-shirt underneath. Or, wear an all-white outfit with a pair of brightly-colored shoes. Contrast has never been so hot!

Additionally, basic clothes, such as gray t-shirts and fitted jeans — that have been embellished with broaches, patches, pins, and sequins are must-haves for fall.

And what's great about this

trend is, if not willing to splurge for Prada's new line of embellished cardigans or Dolce and Gabbana's \$680 sequined rendition of Disney's Mickey Mouse tee, fans of the look can create their own similar pieces.

Try adding a couple of vintage Boy Scout patches (found at Salvation Army or any inexpensive thrift store) to an already-owned fitted shirt or pair of pants. Or take several of Grandma's old, tacky broaches and arrange them over a cardigan or jacket.

This fall look is all about imagination and creativity, truly allowing individual personality to shine through.

Whatever you choose for your fall wardrobe, be it homemade embellished tees or metallic purple wedges by Yves Saint Laurent, don't back-to-school shop with the intention of simply replacing the items you already have!

Instead, opt for a color or fabric you wouldn't normally choose and purchase a wardrobe that allows any individual who comes in contact with you a bit of insight into your character.



CARTER CRAMER
Hop-Couture

Local hip-hop ready to blow up

BY JOHN LICHTFELD

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Baltimore hip-hop scene is both blessed and cursed by a tendency to produce acts that never really break into the MTV mainstream. Artists here are as hungry as the b-boys of back in the day who created the art, but despite blips on the radar like B Rich, Baltimore has yet to produce an artist with any real merit or staying power on the national level. So now in 2004, nearly 25 years since the widely accepted birth of hip-hop, the throne of Charm City rap remains empty. This time next year, that could all be a thing of the past.

Several acts are starting to make their mark and get some serious attention from labels like Def Jam. From the city, the rising star is Comp, a strong rhymers signed to Russel Simmons' power label, and the veteran Labtekwon, who has been rapping since most in the scene were in diapers. From just outside the city, in Towson, the Hardheadz are bringing their own version of the Roots' "hip-hop band" concept. Along with these three big players, a myriad of smaller acts and labels have been diligently working to make their presence known, and while I'm not getting into most of them here, they can be

found at "elements shows" at the Ottobar and opening up for mainstream acts whenever they come through town.

Comp is one of the newest additions to the Simmons Def Jam empire. He was picked up while recording for the Baltimore production company Chocolate City Music, run by Tony Austin. Over the summer, his track "Harder" stayed in heavy rotation at local stations and was also heard up and down the east coast. The 18-year-old West Baltimore MC has also been featured on tracks by Cam'ron, Jada Kiss, and Musiq, as well as had his own songs in the *Johnson Family Vacation* and *Cradle 2 the Grave* soundtracks. "Drama King" Kay Slay has been pushing Comp's vocals on a mix tape (always good for young up-and-comers), and he was even given his own character in Def Jam's "Vendetta" video game. Despite all the attention, Comp doesn't seem to be letting the fame go to his head. In interviews he comes across as confident and determined, and with the type of backing that he's getting from his friends in NYC, there is a good chance that the first mainstream king of Baltimore could be finding his way.

The veteran of the city scene is clearly Labtekwon, who claims to

have been rapping since 1985. Over the course of his long career, he has produced 17 independent releases, including 12 full-length albums on his own Ankh Ba record label. Lab is a true head and has not only been putting in work on the recording side of the "scene," but is also known for tutoring children through UMBC and helping bring up the next young crop of B-boys. Unlike Comp and B Rich, Lab feels that hip-hop in Baltimore can only be saved by nurturing young artists so that they have lasting power, rather than just hoping for a good single and quick fame. In an interview with *City Paper* he's quoted as saying that MCs would rather "blow up, not grow up," and that if more respect were given to those with better skills, Baltimore would get way more respect.

The most promising group I've personally witnessed in the Baltimore area is Towson's Hardheadz crew. The group is more like a working band than a rap group, with keyboards, guitar and drums. The easy comparison is the Roots, and to be honest, they do cop the Philly boys' style on occasion — but that's no reason to write them off. They definitely hold down their own sound as well, and sonically come off a little harder than most jazz-rap groups.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.BOKSON.NET](http://www.bokson.net)

Labtekwon: Veteran of the city scene wants rappers to grow up.

The Hardheadz have been playing shows on campuses and around the city since 2002 and just released their debut "Addicted" earlier this year. As of now, they still seem to be under the radar, but with any luck they'll be getting theirs in the next year or so. It does seem more likely that Lab or Comp will be repping Baltimore from a scene standpoint, at least for the time being, but the Hardheadz have a lot of talent and show great promise if they can just get a break.

Looking over the whole scene, one gets the sense that things are starting to pick up, but the town is still at a simmer. If a solid sound, or collectives like the recently-formed

Maryland Hip Hop Alliance, can bring a number of groups together, then Baltimore should be on the map soon enough. Of course, the one overlooked factor in this whole stew is the contribution of people like former JHU student Cex (aka Rjyan Kidwell). Not exactly a rhyming genius or the next Premier, but what he does bring is that hunger for success, and a level of artistic integrity that is hard to find among a lot of new acts in the area. It's not that all local rappers should be weirdo kids trying to show Warp records how it's done. On the contrary, to reiterate Lab's message: skills and integrity are a much better base than radio-friendly hooks.

Don't be a skeptic: Baltimore arts are thriving

BY ROBBIE WHELAN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

One thing that has always bothered me is how so many Hopkins students wear their disdain for Baltimore on their sleeves. You can hardly have a conversation with a freshman without having to listen to their crap about how New York or Philly or Boston is so much cleaner, or better, or has so many more fun things to do. Kids who say these sorts of things have never looked for the vital signs here in Mobtown — Baltimore has lots to offer when it comes to music, the arts and entertainment, so don't let anyone tell you otherwise.

Fine Art

Just a few minutes downtown from campus on the JHMI shuttle (which leaves from behind Shriver Hall), the Walters Art Gallery is the home of world-class art and the museum tends to have shows that focus on world-wide art. The John and Berthe Ford collection, which became part of the Walters' permanent stock this summer, fea-

tures lots of Tibetan and Indian sculptures, both full-sized and decorative miniatures. You know what that means: lots of beautifully-carved nude Indian goddesses, and delicious erotic art. Another exhibit — slightly more sobering — shows gospel books from the ninth through the seventeenth centuries, and the most recent opening features ancient Egyptian woodcarvings.

Coming off a summer exhibit of work by MacArthur "Genius" Award recipient Kerry James Marshall, the Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) opens the new semester with an exhibit of works on paper from the permanent collection. In October, the BMA follows up with "In Monet's Light: Theodore Robinson at Giverny," a 60-plus work retrospective of the artist who brought Impressionism to America. Best of all, the BMA is right in Hopkins' backyard.

Some other galleries include the Evergreen House, a historic mansion built in 1878 and owned by Baltimore's Garrett family. The House features a permanent sculpture exhibition and various other seasonal shows. Mission Space gallery,



JD Williams and Johanna Day perform at last year's production of *a.m. Sunday* at CenterStage.

part of Mission Media, Inc., has been home to some really hip exhibits recently, including art by Devo guitarist Mark Mothersbaugh, and Bob Dylan and Rolling Stones tour photographer Barry Feinstein.

Last time I was there I met the guitarist from Avril Lavigne's band. He was recording an album in the studio upstairs. There are tons of small indie galleries on 36th Street in Hampden as well, including Paper Rock Scissors and Passionfish. They are open during normal hours for browsing, and the owners are usually very friendly to Hopkins dilettantes like myself.

Music

The Ottobar on Howard Street, about five or six blocks south of campus, is one of the best places in Baltimore to see not-quite-pop indie and local rock and hip-hop. A few times a month they have Britpop dance nights and various local DJs upstairs for the dance-loving crowds. Some upcoming shows there include Brooklyn-based avant-garde band Oneida on Sept. 18, British turntable-master RJD2 on Sept. 30 (not to be missed) and instrumental rockers Explosions in the Sky on Oct. 4.

The Recher Theater on York Road in Towson plays host to acts that are usually a tad more

popular, and the atmosphere is really nice. In the next few months you can see Cowboy Junkies, They Might Be Giants, SR-71 and Blonde Redhead. If you have that highbrow style that includes listening to classical music, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra is one of the finest orchestras on the east coast.

Their program this year includes piano soloists Helen Grimaud and Garry Graffman, and on Oct. 9, the "BSO'le!" concert features acclaimed flamenco dancer Anna Menendez. There are dozens of other local music venues, including the Sidebar Tavern and The Royal Baltimore for the punk-lover, the Creative Alliance at the Patterson Theater for folk, blues, some rock and world music and the Mariner Arena for the big pop shows.

Theatre

For a city of its size, Baltimore is a little short on the theater. The biggest and certainly best professional company is CenterStage, which uses all professional actors and has a huge factory-like production outfit attached to it. That means an enormous art studio, painting studio, set design carpentry company and so on.

While on a tour I had a pretty good time getting lost in the prop room. Oscar Wilde's *Lady*

Windermere's Fan opens season, which includes a musical adaptation of Shakespeare's *Two Gentlemen of Verona* and *The Price* by Arthur Miller. Look out for reviews of those shows in these pages.

Audrey Herman Spotlighters Theatre is one of the few smaller independent companies in town, and the Spotlighters produce a lot of comedies that are a bit off-the-cuff and not the usual fare.

In *Eat the Runt*, the season opener, characters' genders are determined by the audience each night. Some others that will be put on are *Rocky Horror Picture Show*, the musical *Scrooge* and Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple*.

Mt. Vernon's Theatre Project starts season with politically-charged acting troupes Under The Table Ensemble and The Loyal Opposition.

Towson-based aerial dance troupe Air Dance Bernasconi performs in December, and the incurably hip Trachtenberg Family Slideshow Players bring their music and vaudeville slideshow act in December as well.

Whew! I'm out of breath, and that's just the off-campus stuff to do around here. So this year, as you get to know the city or get reacquainted, don't let anyone tell you that this city is lightweight when it comes to the arts. Don't let those skeptics get to you.

WHERE TO EXPERIENCE THE ARTS

Sidebar Tavern
<http://www.sidebar Tavern.com>
218 E. Lexington St.
(410) 659-4130

The Royal Baltimore
<http://www.theroyalbaltimore.com>
1542 Light St.
(410) 783-7776

First Mariner Arena
<http://www.baltimorearena.com>
201 W. Baltimore St.
(410) 347-2020

Creative Alliance @ The Patterson
<http://www.creativealliance.org>
3134 Eastern Ave.
(410) 276-1651

CenterStage
<http://www.centerstage.org>
700 N. Calvert St.
(410) 332-0033

Audrey Herman Spotlight Theatre
<http://www.spotlighters.org>
817 St. Paul St.
(410) 752-1225

Theatre Project
<http://www.theatreproject.org>
45 W. Preston St.
(410) 752-8558

Walters Art Museum
<http://www.thewalters.org>
600 North Charles St.
(410) 547-9000

Baltimore Museum of Art
<http://www.artbma.org>
10 Art Museum Dr.
(410) 396-7100

Mission Space
<http://www.missionmedia.net/space/>
338 N. Charles St. Floor 2
(410) 752-8950

Paper Rock Scissors Gallery
<http://www.paperrockscissors.com>
1111 W. 36th St.
(410) 235-4420

Passionfish Gallery
1131 W. 36th St.
(410) 925-4133

Ottobar
<http://www.theottobar.com>
2549 N. Howard St.
(410) 662-0069

Recher Theatre
<http://www.rechertheatre.com>
512 York Rd.
Towson, MD
(410) 337-7178



NATE BATES/NEWS-LETTER
Freshman midfielder Lori Vislozky advances the ball in the Blue Jays' season opening loss to Mary Washington at Homewood.

Hopkins falls to MWC in two OTs

BY ALLAN SOTO
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Johns Hopkins Field Hockey team can't seem to figure out Mary Washington, dropping a season opening double-overtime heartbreaker, 2-1, Wednesday night on Homewood Field.

The Blue Jays also opened the 2003 season with a loss to Mary Washington, ending up on the wrong end of a lopsided 7-1 contest.

"I'm a little disappointed about the result ... but I'm very proud of our play," said junior goalkeeper Meredith Shifman. "We made a really loud statement for our season opener."

"I think that this year we worked really hard in the pre-season and knew that we could definitely hold Mary Washington to a good game," said sophomore midfielder Amy Soergel. "I think that we have an exciting season ahead of us. We have a young team, but a very strong team that has a lot of potential."

Playing to a 1-1 tie in the second sudden-death overtime, the Blue Jays gave up a breakaway goal, allowing the Eagles to escape Homewood with a 2-1 victory.

The contest featured outstanding defensive plays from both teams, as the game went scoreless throughout the first half of the contest. The Blue Jays allowed just one goal to the Eagles in regulation. The Eagles' lone regulation goal came mid-

way through the second half.

The Jays responded to the Mary Washington score by notching a goal off a corner, as junior Meighan Roose fed sophomore Leah Dudley for what would end up being the lone Blue Jay goal.

"I think that our defense was playing a really good game, but transition to offense and then to the circle to score was a few seconds off," said Soergel.

Hopkins averted defeat several times in the opening minutes of the first overtime thanks to critical stops by Shifman and the Blue Jay defense.

Shifman made two point-blank saves within a 60-second span, including a sliding breakaway save to give the Blue Jays renewed life.

"Our defense last year was inexperienced and young. This year we have all returners which makes a big difference in the backfield," said Shifman. "Our defense made a lot aggressive tackles to help swing the momentum."

Unfortunately, despite the performance of their goalkeeper and defensive squad, the night did not belong to Hopkins, as they fell to 0-1 for the young season.

"We still have a whole season ahead of us and a lot of conference games to win," said Shifman.

The Blue Jays next contest will come against SUNY-Cortland this Sunday at 1 p.m. on Homewood Field.

High hopes for 2005 Jays

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12

NCAA playoffs, beating Providence 15-3 on Homewood Field. Ford and junior attackman Kyle Barrie each scored three goals apiece and added one assist, while junior attackman Pete LeSueur tied his career high with six points.

The Blue Jays held a slim 4-2 edge at the end of the first quarter, but exploded with an 11-goal run until the middle of the third quarter when Providence finally scored its third and final goal of the game.

Hopkins controlled 17 out of 21 faceoffs and displayed no signs of slowing down the offensive action in the third quarter, scoring three times in the first five minutes.

In addition to Ford, Barrie and

Big Year for Lady Jays

Improving steadily since making the jump to Division I four years ago, the women's lacrosse team also enjoyed the success of its best season in school history. Hopkins climbed into the top 10 for the first time ever, finished the season with a 12-5 record, and made their first appearance in the NCAA tournament. The Jays lost in the first round to James

Madison, though.

In the final game, sophomore Kelley Putnam led Hopkins with two goals. Junior Anne Crisafulli and senior first team All-American Heidi Pearce also chipped in with two goals apiece in the loss to James Madison. Freshman standout Mary Key finished with three assists.

Hopkins finished the season ranked No. 10 in the nation — the highest ranking ever in Hopkins women's lacrosse D-I history.



NATE BATES/NEWS-LETTER
Junior faceoff specialist Lou Braun dives at a loose ball in the Blue Jays' NCAA tourney loss to rival Syracuse at M&T Bank Stadium.

We are still disappointed in our Final Four ... There is not a night or morning that I don't think of it.

—HEAD COACH
DAVE PIETRAMALA

LeSueur's offensive exploits, Boland added two goals and two assists. His two assists moved him into first place on Hopkins career list among midfielders (77) while Barrie's three goals moved him into a tie for seventh best Hopkins career total in NCAA tournament play (19).

Defensively, backup freshman goalie Jesse Schwarzmann, who replaced an injured Smith, helped quell a comeback attempt by stopping nine shots in his first career NCAA playoff game.

"It was great to reach the playoffs again this year — it was one of our goals from the beginning and we performed well as a whole unit in the Providence game," said Pietramala.

As for the upcoming season Pietramala thinks "it is important to use the [Syracuse] game as a learning experience. It's a new team this year and we don't want to hold last year's disappointment over their heads this year.

"I think the biggest thing the team learned is that mental is sometimes more important than physical," he said. "The loss to Syracuse will only serve as motivation for the team this year."

W. Soccer falls to 0-1

BY NEWS-LETTER STAFF

The Johns Hopkins women's soccer team struggled in its opener against a perennial powerhouse, The College of New Jersey, losing by a score of 3-0 in Ewing, N.J. this past Wednesday.

The Lions jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first half against the Lady Jays and never looked back, adding another goal in the second frame while amassing a 12-3 advantage in shots on goal during the contest.

With much of last year's ECAC playoff team still intact, the 2004 Lady Jays will be vying for an eighth consecutive playoff appearance despite the early-season setback at TCNJ. Both of last season's leading scorers — jun-

ior forward Meg McIntosh and sophomore forward Laurie Baumann — figure to be major offensive weapons once again this year.

TCNJ figures to be a major player in this year's D-III women's soccer picture once again, having been ranked fourth in the preseason National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) poll. The Lions advanced deep into the '03 playoffs, losing to eventual champion Oneonta, 2-1.

The Lady Jays will return to action against Mount Union at home on Friday, when Hopkins will host the annual JHU Invitational. The Jays will also take on Rochester on Sunday afternoon in the second installment of the Invitational.



Head coach Dave Pietramala and sophomore goalie Scott Smith couldn't find an answer for Syracuse in the Jays' 15-9 loss to the Orangemen in last spring's NCAA Division I semifinal game.

Tough tourney loss for Jays

Hopkins falls to Syracuse in NCAA D-I Lacrosse semis

BY LAUREN DEAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

For the third consecutive year, the Johns Hopkins men's lacrosse team finished the regular season ranked No. 1 in the nation. And for a third consecutive year, the Blue Jays were upset in the playoffs and fell short of a Division I National Championship. Hopkins finished with an impressive 13-2 record and appeared in the final four but could not get past a pesky Syracuse team in the semifinals.

Though the Orangemen lost to the Jays by a score of 17-5 earlier in the year, Syracuse peaked in the postseason en route to an upset win over Hopkins and an NCAA title victory over No. 2 Navy.

"We are still extremely disappointed in our Final Four performance," said Hopkins head coach Dave Pietramala. "There is not a night or morning that I don't think of it."

What seemed to be a golden path to Hopkins first National Championship since 1987 was not to be. The Blue Jays faced powerful rival Syracuse in the semifinal game, losing by a score of 15-9. Hopkins had a hard time finding its rhythm in the first half, but seemed to get it together in the third quarter, as the Jays scored three of the second half's first four goals to turn a 6-5 deficit into an 8-7 lead; but it turned out to be the only lead Hopkins would hold during this game.

Syracuse came back to score three times in the final two min-

utes of the period, taking an 11-8 advantage into the final frame.

Junior midfielder Kyle Harrison went on to score his second goal of the game in the beginning of the fourth quarter, but it turned out to be Hopkins' last of 2004. Junior midfielder Matt Rewkowski led the Jays with three goals, while senior attackman Conor Ford and Harrison added two apiece.

Senior midfielder Kevin Boland added three assists. Sophomore goalie Scott Smith came up with 14 saves, but it was not enough to combat Syracuse's 45-37 shots on goal advantage.

"We were up by a goal with three minutes to go in the third quarter," said assistant coach Bill Tierney. "The face off guys did well, and we did a good job holding the ball and waiting for the best opportunity. I don't think our guys thought they could lose, but their focus dropped and it fell apart. It took a few minutes to get over the shock after beating them so badly in the regular season."

In the quarterfinal preceding the loss to Syracuse, Hopkins made quick work of a formidable North Carolina team. The Jays rolled past the Tar Heels, 15-9, propelling themselves into the Final Four in the process. Ford was the offensive catalyst, as he tied his career high for goals scored (five). After falling behind 2-1 late in the first quarter, Rewkowski found the net twice for Hopkins, sparking an 8-2 scoring run. Senior midfielder Joe McDermott picked up where Rewkowski left off, scoring his first goal of the '04 playoffs to give the

Jays a one-goal lead in the opening minutes of the second quarter.

Though it seemed Hopkins had the game all but wrapped up, Carolina went on a three-goal run to pull within 9-7 with nine minutes left in the third quarter. However, Harrison stopped the run with his second goal of the game and junior midfielder Benson Erwin put home his first goal of the season less than two minutes later, giving the Blue Jays an 11-7 lead at the end of the third.

Boland scored two fourth-quarter goals to give the Blue Jays a comfortable 13-7 cushion. In a man-down situation, Smith came up with a huge save and cleared the ball Erwin, who fed Harrison for another goal to seal the victory.

"We played as well as expected, we threw out a lot of zone stuff and we were prepared defensively," said Tierney. "The wonderful part of playoffs is that since we play the toughest [regular season] schedule, we are always prepared."

"Carolina is always a dangerous team — [each of the last two regular season games against UNC] were one-goal games that we won in overtime — so we had to be mentally and physically prepared," added Pietramala.

Playing arguably the toughest schedule in D-I lacrosse, the Blue Jays consistently pounded high-ranked opponents this spring, beating many of them by double digits. They continued that momentum into round one of the

CONTINUED ON PAGE A11

M. Soccer now 1-0

BY CLAIRE KOEHLER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The men's soccer team started off the 2004 season with a 2-0 defeat of visiting William Patterson on Wednesday afternoon at Homewood Field. The Blue Jays never trailed in this contest, leading 1-0 in the first half and increasing their lead to 2-0 early in the second frame. Hopkins is now 1-0 on the season. The season opening win marks the 11th straight for the Jays, who are looking to advance to the NCAA tournament this year after an ECAC championship in 2003.

"We played a bad first half where we needed to get out the first game jitters, but a strong second half followed," said head coach Matt Smith. "We missed a lot of chances in the first half, but if we play like we did in the second half through out the season, starting this weekend in the Kick-off Classic, I'll be happy."

The Jays out shot the Pioneers 21-2, although they capitalized on only two of those shots. Junior forward Steve Read scored the season's first goal in the 39th minute off a cross from junior forward Edmond Wybaille. "It was a great cross from Edmond and I had the opportunity to head it in the goal," said Read. "The goal boosted our confidence for the second half, where we capitalized on more opportunities"

Junior midfielder Jeremy Jacobson scored the off a pass from junior midfielder Manbaj Gill in the second half.

"We have a lot to work on, mainly finishing our shots," said junior midfielder and co-captain Traver Davis. "The first game is always tough because you don't know what to expect, it's not like practice."

Senior goalkeeper and co-captain Gary Kane, Jr. made one save for Hopkins while Patterson goalkeeper Kyle Rowe made a total of

seven saves against the Jays. "We have to give credit to their goalie, he made some great saves," said Smith. "Our finishing [on offense] will come during the season."

On the defensive side, a pair of co-captains — senior defenseman Chris Brown and junior sweeper Jeff Grosser — played a large role in the shutout of Patterson. "This was our first time playing William Patterson and our team goal was to move the ball around as much as we could," said Grosser. "I think we were successful at that. In the second half we definitely picked up our efforts ... it's good to get the first win under our belt."

The Jays out shot the Pioneers 9-1, leading in all the major offensive categories. "We are a very, very good team this year, but we're also a very injured team. Eleven out of our 25 kids are hurt, mostly as a result of an unlucky step or two on the hard turf," said Smith.

One asset that will work to the Jays favor, however, is a strong core of leaders. "We have great veteran leadership on this team," said Read.

This weekend during the Kick-off Classic at Homewood Field, Hopkins will face some tough competition. Both opponents — Grove City and Washington Jefferson — won their respective conferences last year. "Our goal as a team is to throw ourselves to the wolves so to speak before our conference hits," said Smith. "Every game, except one, we will face a top regional or national opponent."

Patterson was no exception. "William Patterson is in one of the toughest conferences in the country and continually plays a top 10 schedule while we play a top 20 schedule," Smith said.

Though this year's schedule is the hardest in Smith's tenure at Hopkins, the team appears poised for the challenge.

"We're strong everywhere, offense and defense," he said. "I'm looking forward to a great season."



NATE BATES/NEWS-LETTER

Junior forward Steve Read scored the game-winner vs. Patterson.

More than beer: a frat perspective

While they aren't for everyone, fraternities offer the chance for brotherhood and entertainment

By Brendan Schreiber

At Johns Hopkins, fraternities play a very large part in the overall scheme of social life; so large, in fact, that a barrage of personal invitations to parties often blind-side freshmen during orientation, just after they're settled in.

While frats may seem desperate for attention during this first week or so, they actually have no problem drawing large crowds because the truth is that there just isn't much else to do on weekends.

There are certainly other outlets available for the stressed Hopkins student, but very few: house parties, local entertainment and university-run entertainment. House parties are essentially the same as frat parties, only smaller and more exclusive.

The only way to get in is usually if you know someone who knows someone who lives in the house. Local entertainment is sometimes reliable, but not very consistent, as is the case with university-run entertainment — speakers, theater and other types of performances.

Thus, from Thursday through Saturday (and sometimes Sunday) night, the average active student is left with one of two options: meander to one of several frat parties or quest for something new and different.

Hopkins fraternities generally fit into one of three categories, more or less: sports teams, a common interest or affiliation, or an indiscriminate group. The lines are not drawn solely around these criteria, but for the most part, each fraternity brother intentionally has something specific or absolutely nothing in common with his brothers.

For instance, Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) is mostly composed of baseball players and Alpha Delta Phi (Wawa) is mostly football. Lambda Phi Epsilon is a traditionally Asian fraternity, while Alpha Epsilon Pi (AEPi) is the only fraternity officially affiliated with Judaism in the United States.

Each of these groups quite often makes exceptions to their standard membership criteria, as there are many non-Jews in AEPi, non-baseball players in SAE, and in each of the others. Other fraternities, Sigma Phi Epsilon (SigEp) for instance, have no specific affiliation and a general membership.

Beyond these fraternities — those that have charters (official recognition) through Johns Hopkins — are those that are not yet recognized by the University.

This is not because they are any less legitimate, but rather because

they are still in the fledgling stage or choose not to affiliate with the University. There are several of these groups, many of which have an ethnic attachment.

For those interested in joining a fraternity, the process is fairly simple: you find a frat that you like, and essentially try-out through recruitment (more commonly referred to as 'rush') and 'pledging' (the frat's opportunity to review its aspiring members).

It is possible to rush several frats — though most usually declare allegiance to only one relatively early in the year — but you can only pledge one frat.

Recruitment is the opportunity for frats to court prospective pledges with

programming intended to convince as many 'rushees' to pledge. At the end of rush, accepted rushees receive a 'bid' before pledging begins. When pledging starts, the pledges are loosely obligated to the brothers, who are technically not permitted to force pledges to perform acts against their will — but this enforcement is very lax, if even existent.

Most frats have their own houses, so when pledges officially become brothers, they are provided the option of living in the frat house. Some houses — Wawa and SAE for instance — are very large and can accommodate many brothers, while others — AEPi and SigEp — range from two- to five-bedrooms and house only a few brothers.

Hopkins fraternities are overseen

by the Inter-Fraternity Council, which reviews and keeps an eye on all the frats on campus. This group also plays a major role in the approval process through which frats become officially chartered by the University.

Whether you are looking for brotherhood or just something fun to do on a Saturday night, Hopkins frat life definitely has something to offer. But there are those who, during four years here, never attend a single frat party.

It is up to each student to determine how best to occupy himself during available free time; the way in which this is done can strongly affect how a student ultimately remembers his college years.

WHERE TO GET YOUR PARTY ON: A GUIDE TO HOPKINS FRATERNITIES

Alpha Delta Phi

This is the closest that Hopkins gets to fulfilling the *Animal House* archetype. Composed mostly of football players and other athletes, WaWa (that's its nickname, if you haven't read the Lingo Guide yet) has the reputation of being wild. Their parties are huge, and they usually boast plenty of ladies, including some from our neighboring schools.

Alpha Epsilon Pi

As the traditionally Jewish fraternity here at Hopkins, these guys are very active in religious activities, as well as the social scene. They finally have a new house this year, so expect more big bashes from them.

Beta Theta Pi

The total membership of this fraternity is considerably less than most of the other frats' pledge classes alone. If you end up at one of their parties, let us know — we haven't heard about any Beta shindigs recently.

Lambda Phi Epsilon

This is the Asian-interest fraternity at good old Johnny Hop. You'll definitely hear about their club nights downtown, which are held a few times per semester. Plus they host a few well-promoted parties throughout the year.

Pi Kappa Alpha

Pike is the shortest distance from campus, so you're bound to end up here more than a few times (especially if you're not a fan of late-night powerwalking). You should definitely drop by their Piketoberfest or Margaritaville fiestas, which always bring in huge crowds.

Sigma Phi Epsilon

The fire-engine red door on their house is impossible to miss (and if, due to poor night vision, you don't notice the door, you'll definitely see a few lingering partygoers outside). They boast numerous themed parties (including one for practically every holiday) throughout the year, most notably the Heaven and Hell bash, which is guaranteed to foster some scandalous moments. And be sure to check out SigEp's Game Night for a cool, laid-back Thursday activity.

Sigma Alpha Mu

The crowds at Sammy tend to build up more and more as the evening progresses. Come here for good dance music, since the brothers often play DJ in the basement, and for the often wide selection of beverage choices.

Sigma Chi

As the newest addition to JHU Greek Life, Sigma Chi is quickly building a strong, close-knit brotherhood. The house is impressively clean (which is very commendable due to the usual nature of frat houses), and the parties boast bigger and bigger crowds as the years progress. You'll definitely hear about their bashes, since the brothers promote them like crazy.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon

SAE, located on the corner of 30th and St. Paul Streets, is a Hopkins party staple. Their Front 9/Back 9 parties are among the most talked about of the school year — don't miss 'em. They host many other popular bashes throughout the year, so you'll definitely be there more than a few times

over the upcoming semesters.

Phi Gamma Delta

More commonly known as Fiji, this fraternity consists predominantly of mostly soccer and basketball players. In recent years, they have been without an official house, but that hasn't stopped these boys from having a good time. You won't receive a plethora of flyers from these guys, with the exception of ones for their annual Islander shindig, which is held in the President's Garden in the spring.

Phi Kappa Psi

Back in the day, Bloomberg was a member of this fraternity — we're not sure if that has anything to do with the fact that they have an absolutely amazing house. Although their place is quite a trek from campus (and in an otherwise quiet neighborhood), it's worth stopping by for a few of the Phi Psi parties. Just don't be too loud on the way in. In addition to an overall laid-back scene, these guys often have bands jamming in the basement at their fiestas. Just don't bother them at 4:20 because they might be ... um ... busy.

Delta Phi (St. Elmo's)

This non-IFC fraternity has an affinity for tuxedos and cucumber sandwiches (no, seriously, their parties are actually catered). You'll probably get a monogrammed invitation in your mailbox at some point, but don't let this fool you — their parties can get pretty packed. Just don't forget your old prom gown or coat and tie whenever you show up.

—By News-Letter Staff

Dirty basements may be exciting now, but trust us, they get old

Explore charming Baltimore as an alternative

By Ishai Mooreville

It is easy for freshmen to be seduced by the wild revelry, carefree drinking and uninhibited young coeds that typically adorn most fraternity parties. But after a few weekends of dragging an unconscious roommate back to their room, many students start looking for alternative forms of entertainment.

Enter the self-proclaimed "Greatest City in America," and a plentiful amount of weekend options are ready for the taking.

Baltimore is a city divided into many different and distinct neighborhoods, each offering their own flavor. Visiting these neighborhoods is a good way to get to know the city.

Little Italy offers great Italian fare and a restaurant devoted entirely to gourmet desserts, Vaccaro's. Fells Point is the place to be for bar-hopping, as it has one of the highest concentrations of bars in the country. Mount Vernon offers bohemian art galleries and sushi bars. Hampden is the place for vintage clothing and kitschy antiques. Federal Hill offers several concert venues and clubs. And of course, there's always Charles Village, home to a smorgasbord of students and good old-fashioned Baltimoreans.

The Inner Harbor, Baltimore's tried and true tourist destination, is always a good place to take a break from the books. Besides a wealth of shopping and dining options, the Harbor is home to the National Aquarium, full of sharks, squid and starfish. For animals that like to stay on land, head to the Baltimore Zoo (2600 Madison Ave.) filled with penguin islands and chimpanzee forests.

If you need Matisse or Warhol to brighten up your day, look no further than the Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) for a heavy dose of good old-fashioned talent. Located on the Homewood campus, admission to the museum is free for Hopkins students with college ID.

The BMA's downtown sibling, the Walters Art Museum (Mount Vernon Square) showcases art from around the globe and offers special exhibits year-round. Fabergé eggs never looked better.

After several nights of listening to Bon Jovi standards at Sig Ep, it might be time to venture off into other musical genres. The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra plays regularly at the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall (1212 Cathedral St., a couple blocks from Penn Station). The Meyerhoff also occasionally offers stand-up acts like Dennis Miller and

Jerry Seinfeld. Johns Hopkins' own Peabody Conservatory (Mount Vernon Square) also offers frequent (and often free) classical and jazz concerts by its world-class student body. The Recher Theater (512 York Rd.) in Towson is a good bet for independent rock acts like Pat McGee Band, Collective Soul and They Might Be Giants, all playing there this fall.

While Baltimore may not offer the star power and lights of Broadway, professional theatre has been making somewhat of a comeback here in recent years. Two of the most well-established theaters are Center Stage (700 N. Calvert St.) which features musicals and college nights where ticket prices are reduced. The Everyman Theater (1727 N. Charles St.) also offers student discounts and sticks mostly to drama.

Baltimore also provides its fair share of sporting options for those die-hard fans. Baseball enthusiasts can catch the Baltimore Orioles games at one of the best parks in the nation, Camden Yards. This season ends Oct. 3, then starts up again in early April. Games rarely sell-out so you can buy your tickets just before game-time.

The 2001 Super Bowl Champion Baltimore Ravens play at M&T Bank Stadium through Dec. If you just want to watch the game on TV, and maybe grab a bite while you're at it, visit the ESPN Zone at the Inner Harbor. It also features arcade-style virtual reality sports games.

So go and party in some dirty fraternity basements for the next month or two. But one day soon your higher cultural sense will come calling. When that time arrives, don't be afraid to explore the city and make your weekend one for the record books.

Try D.C., concerts or even your dorm instead

By Julianna Finelli

Let's face it. There is nothing more exciting than drinking cheap beer in a dark basement, with barely enough room to duck as a beer-soaked ping-pong ball soars toward your head. But if you find you need a short break from this fast-paced, exhilarating nightlife, there are plenty of nearby diversions that rival even the most thrilling of frat parties — and you won't come home with that mysterious frat house grime on your shoes.

If it's live music you crave, take a walk or a two-minute cab ride to the Ottobar, located at 2549 N. Howard St. The Ottobar has served as a venue for bands like the Bouncing Souls, Le Tigre and The Breeders, and always features a variety of local bands. Their cleverly-themed DJ nights — "Morrissey Monday," "Metal Monday," for example — and their monthly Underground dance night, featuring brit-pop, indie and new wave, always draw a fun crowd. Check out their schedule at <http://www.theottobar.com>.

Other clubs include Fletcher's at 701 S. Bond St., which hosts a fair mix of bands, and the Sidebar Tavern at 218 E. Lexington St., which features primarily punk rock bands.

If you're in the mood for a little window-shopping and sight-seeing, your easiest bet is the cultural district of Mount Vernon. Just hop on the Hopkins-JHMI shuttle, get off at the Peabody stop and discover the area's hidden gems for yourself. Grab some lunch at the Women's Industrial Exchange, a genteel little restaurant at 333 N. Charles St. that dates back to the 19th century. They serve killer crab cake sandwiches and feature a 1940s-style tea room. For even more vintage flavor, check out the antique row on North Howard Street.

Although better known for its alcohol-soaked nightlife, Fells Point has some great shopping, too. Antique stores, unique coffee shops and independent record stores, like Reptilian Records on South Broadway Street, offer a refreshing alternative to the Towson Town Center's chain stores.

If you're willing to make the trek to D.C., you'll find it well worth the 40-minute train ride. The best public transportation system in America makes it easy to get anywhere without a car. Clubs like Nation (1015 Half St.) and the 9:30 Club (815 V St.) feature a good mix of bands, both mainstream and obscure. The Black Cat (1811 14th St.) has shows and DJ dance nights that rival those of the Ottobar, and is just one of many must-see spots in the historic U Street area (be sure to try the milkshakes at Ben's Chili Bowl, located at 1213 U St.). The extent of shopping opportunities in D.C. cannot be overstated — check out Dupont Circle and Friendship Heights (both stops on the Red Line) and, of course, Georgetown (take any of the 30-something buses from Friendship Heights). Plan your D.C. trip carefully, as the MARC train only runs on weekdays.

If you're too drained from Intro Chem to even think about trekking off campus, consider donning your pajamas and heading over to Cafe Q. With fine drinks and delicious pastries that rival any other coffee shop, Cafe Q is an easy spot to sit with friends and chat. If you feel like reliving your high-school sleepover nights, take the escort shuttle to Blockbuster, pop some popcorn, and veg out in the AMR lounges. Student groups are always holding on-campus events, so check those weekly Student Council e-mails for ideas.

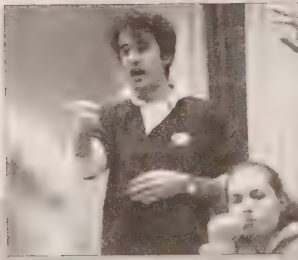
So when the frat party scene loses its luster, you have no excuse to mope in your room. With a little planning and willingness to explore, you might discover that "Charm City" isn't a complete misnomer.



A ROUGH YEAR FOR STUCO

November 2003

Freshman Jared Ede introduces a referendum to update the StuCo constitution, which he feels is too "parliamentarian." The constitution passes and creates new committees, leaving StuCo no class representatives and no bylaws.



February 2004

President Charles Reyner and StuCo members present and debate redrafted bylaws.

March 2004

Several candidates for president of student body drop out of the campaign, citing frustration with the new constitution and excessive mudslinging during the campaign. The election results are eventually invalidated after charges of campaign violations.



April 2004

The second round of presidential elections results in a tie between junior Soren Gandrud (right) and sophomore Hyder Syed. Third round runoff results are scrapped when the online voting server goes down.

Our very own Johns Hopkins soap opera, Student Council style

By Brendan Schreiber

It wouldn't be entirely accurate to claim that the Student Council (StuCo) is in a state of crisis. Not yet.

Yes, it is true that the ratification of a new constitution effectively turned StuCo upside down and necessitated "special" mid-term elections to replace subsequently displaced officers. It is also true that appeals to the Board of Elections (BoE) against allegations of corruption and dirty campaigning rendered three presidential elections void. And, worst of all, StuCo is still without a president six months after the first round of elections.

The trouble began in December when freshman Jared Ede drafted a new constitution and successfully lobbied it into passage by the student body. This new constitution mandated two significant changes in StuCo.

First, it ousted each class' three representatives — not to be confused with the class officials (president, vice president, secretary and treasurer).

Four senators per class, chosen in a rushed special election held immediately prior to winter break, replaced the deposed representatives, collectively forming the new Student Assembly subgroup.

These senators each ran for a position on one of several committees, including the Committee on Legislation

and the Committee on Leadership Appointments. The senior class was exempt from replacing their representatives, who simply took on the title of senator, though the election filled the fourth senatorial position to round out the 16-member Assembly.

Perhaps of greater importance to the future of the institution was the composition of an entirely new set of bylaws. This completely rewrote the procedures, legislation and overall operational capacity of the group.

For instance, the Student Activities Commission (SAC), which answers to StuCo in its allocation of funds to various student groups,

was technically detached from executive oversight until StuCo redrafted and approved the bylaws.

Though Ede sought to democratize what he saw as the parliamentary system under which StuCo functioned, he met much opposition among the members of StuCo, who claimed he had thrown a wrench into to an entire year of StuCo operation. While most members agreed that StuCo became more democratic as a result, the ensuing difficulty signaled impending rough seas.

Controversy arose again in March, when several candidates for president of the student body withdrew from the race. Some expressed frustration with the sudden changes implemented un-

der the new constitution, while others cited excessive mudslinging as sufficient reason to drop out of the campaign.

Things got worse when charges regarding violations of campaign regulations — and the consequent appeals filed by the accused and other parties — forced the BoE to throw out the results of the presidential election.

Delays in the release of the results had dragged on for days when, in an interview with the News-Letter, the BoE disclosed that a number of complaints, including an appeal from the JHU American Civil Liberties Union (JHU-ACLU), brought the election's results into question to the extent that the most appropriate action would be to discard them. The BoE placed the second round of presidential elections within the class elections held in April.

Soon thereafter, Director of Student Involvement Jeff Groden-Thomas handed down the surprise removal of Rick Aseltine from his position as BoE co-chair due to a university regulation that requires all students in leadership positions to be full-time students at the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences or the Whiting School of Engineering. As a part-time student at the School of Professional Studies in Business and Education, Aseltine was declared ineligible to hold a leadership position and removed from office.

Rumors of corruption within the BoE circulated among students, and some even claimed that both the BoE and the candidates involved in the protracted controversy had partisan ties to the various political groups on campus.

However, these murmurs never materialized in the class elections, when a 397-397 tie between junior Soren Gandrud and sophomore Hyder Syed affirmed dumb luck as the victor. Once again, StuCo found

itself without a president and with no clear future.

In an unprecedented turn of events, the BoE pursued the inevitable course of action: a tiebreaker. Gandrud and Syed were the only candidates in a runoff election held in the twilight of the 2003-2004 school year.

But this election was cancelled as well, in favor of another runoff held as the 2004-2005 school year commences, thus leaving StuCo without a president over the vital summer months.

As the next school year begins, and the next session of StuCo commences with the absence of a leader, veteran members of the group have temporarily stepped in to fill the gap left by delay after delay in proceedings.

Until a new president is in place, StuCo will operate under a loose interim leadership from within its own organization.

But even when a president has been elected, this series of postponements can only make things more difficult for a council that is feeling its way through the beginning of a transition signaled by the ratification of the new constitution.

Spring Break

17 HOT DESTINATIONS!

Book Early & Reveal:

- Free Meals
- Free Drinks
- Free T-Shirt

CAMPUS REPS WANTED

Travel Free & Be VIP

www.studentcity.com 1 888 Spring Break

Your guide to getting things done

By News-Letter Staff

The Board of Trustees

President Raymond Mason
(410) 539-0000

ramason@leggmason.com

Responsibilities: The Board serves as the governing body of the university and is responsible for its conduct.

William Brody

President

x6-8068

wrbrody@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: President Brody is in charge of all University affairs. He is also responsible for fundraising and reporting matters to the board.



Steven Knapp

Provost

x6-8070

steven.knapp@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Provost Knapp is responsible for the performance and quality of all academic programs of the University and coordinates the work of the eight Hopkins schools.

Frederick Savage

Interim VP and General Counsel

x6-8128

fsavage@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Vice President Savage represents the University in all legal matters and helps provide legal advice to its members, including students.

Dennis O'Shea

Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs

(443) 287-9900

dro@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Mr. O'Shea is the spokesperson for the University.

James McGill

Senior VP for Finance and Administration

x6-8125

jmcgill@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Vice President McGill is the chief business and financial officer of the University.

Paula Burger

Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, Vice Dean for Undergraduate Education

x6-8382

ppburger@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Vice Provost Burger is responsible for implementing recommendations from the CUE report and oversees Homewood Student Affairs.

Ronald Mullen

Director, Homewood Security, Parking & Transportation Services

x6-4600

mullen@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Director Mullen oversees the Hopkins security department.

William Conley

Dean of Enrollment

x6-7875

wconley@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Dean Conley oversees undergraduate admissions, financial aid, the registrar, Krieger Academic advising and pre-professional advising.

Daniel Weiss

James B. Knapp Dean, Krieger School of Arts and Sciences

x6-4065

dweiss@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Dean Weiss is responsible for overseeing the Krieger school, specifically dealing with faculty resources and diversity.

Nicholas Jones

Dean, Whiting School of Engineering

x6-4050

npjones@uiuc.edu

Responsibilities: Dean Jones is the newly appointed Whiting Dean and is responsible for the schools' academic direction and focus.

Susan Boswell

Dean of Student Life

x6-8208

sboswell@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Dean Boswell oversees all non-academic services.

John Bader

Assistant Dean of Academic Advising and Scholarship Advisor

x6-8216

jbader@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Assistant Dean Bader offers academic assistance, handles grievances with professors and offers scholarship assistance.

Gary Ostrander

Associate Provost for Research

x6-8215

gko@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Associate Provost oversees student research and coordinates student research programs such as the Provost Awards.

Ralph Johnson

Associate Dean of Students

x6-2224

rjohnson6@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: In charge of programming events aimed toward student growth, conducts training on diversity issues and chairs the steering committee for this year's inaugural Fall Festival.

Dorothy Sheppard

Associate Dean of Student Affairs

x6-8208

dsheppard@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Ms. Sheppard is responsible for the administration of the Ethics Board and carries out disciplinary action.

William Smedick

Assistant to the Dean of Student Life

x6-8208

smedick@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Dr. Smedick advises and assists student groups such as the News-Letter, MSE and WJHU.

Ruth Aranow

Senior Academic Advisor and Study Abroad Coordinator

x6-2226

raaranow@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Ms. Aranow is the pointperson for all Hopkins undergraduate study abroad programs.

Jeffrey Groden Thomas

Director of Student Involvement

x6-2224

jgroden1@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Mr. Groden Thomas advises Student Council, SAC, the BoE and the HOP.

Carol Mohr

Senior Director of Housing and Dining Services

x6-7961

cmohr@hd.jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Ms. Mohr oversees Hopkins dining services, on-campus housing facilities maintenance and the off-campus housing office.

Shelly Fickau

Director of Residential Life

x6-8283

shellyf@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Oversees and assists the RA's and handles disputes and issues that arise in University housing.

Michael Little

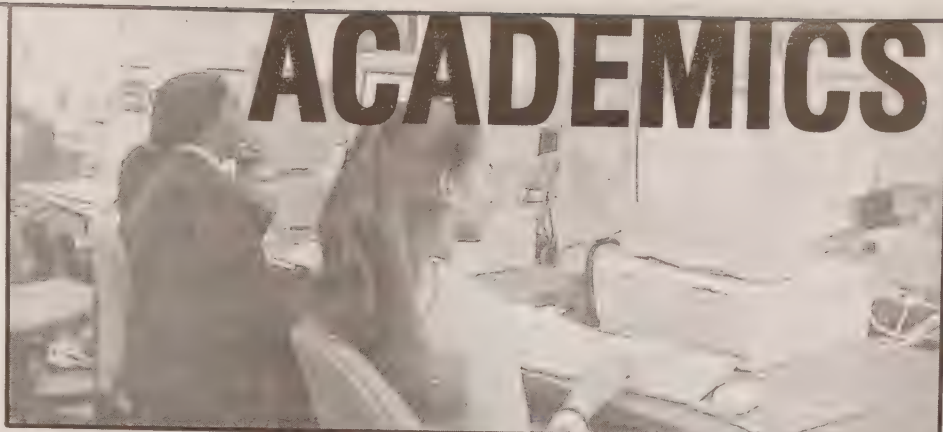
Greek Coordinator

x6-7907

mlittle@jhu.edu

Responsibilities: Mr. Little is responsible for Greek affairs and assists with Orientation.

"It's a little bit like sex—it's more fun with two."
—Mathematics Professor Richard Wentworth on why people like complex analysis as opposed to real analysis.



Watch your back and hide your answers: fact or urban myth?

By Eric Ridge

"The Hopkins Effect," wrote a columnist in *New York Magazine* last March, explains everything from why New York Mayor and Hopkins alum Michael Bloomberg suffers from a plummeting popularity rating to why undergrads toil away countless hours in the depths of MSE.

"The classic Hopkins grad isn't just a dork," the author wrote. "He's a dork with a superiority complex."

But there is more to the stereotypical Hopkins student than a haughty façade bonded with barrels of book smarts. Indeed, the Hopkins mentality is often referred to as something even more malevolent. "Cutthroat," or "throaty" for short, is the perception that students here are willing to do anything to keep their peers from succeeding.

The stories of cutthroat behavior are nearly as pervasive as they are malicious. Most ubiquitous are stories of students who steal notes from their peers not because they need them, but just so that a competitor wouldn't have them to study.

In other cases, students have pulled fire alarms before major exams, some say in an attempt to disrupt what little sleep their peers may be getting the night before a test.

But is this reality at Johns Hopkins? Are we doomed to spend our college careers trying to beat out the competition just so that we can advance to the next stage of life, whether it is medical school, law school, graduate school or a top-flight job?

Yes, says senior Brian Fishman, a double major in Biology and Psychology who says he laments the culture of trying to succeed at the expense of others.

Fishman believes that the so-called cutthroat attitude is particularly prevalent in classes that are graded on a curve.

"The problem is that the only way to do well is if other people do poorly," he said.

In turn, that leads to a culture of competition, particularly in an environment such as Hopkins that is full of highly motivated students.

"The curve motivates people to study

too much, which sets a very high standard. Some people can't keep up because they want to have some semblance of a social life," Fishman said.

In classes with curves that do not pit students directly against each other, such as introductory physics, Fishman says that he has found students somewhat likely to help each other.

On the other hand, in classes such as Genetics, where students must use outside articles and obscure sources to find answers to homework questions, Fishman says he has found his peers are more likely to guard their answers closely.

"People are less likely to share information if they've sat at their computer for an hour or two to find the answer for that one question," he says.

Senior Aaron Seider, an international relations major, disagrees with the conclusion that Hopkins students are cutthroat. He believes that Hopkins' reputation derives more from legend than from fact.

"I think that it may have been true at one point and now it's sort of like an urban myth."

Seider says that for the most part, he sees Hopkins students as being focused

on advancing themselves, but not necessarily at the expense of their peers.

"People don't attack other people to get ahead. They just work extremely hard at what they do. I think the fire alarms before the biology exam is more of a joke than a cutthroat act."

And while he concedes that there are a few people who are cutthroat, they are few and far between.

"I think there are a couple of people who are willing to do whatever they feel is necessary, but the vast majority of people at JHU, especially outside of the premed field, are not cutthroat at all."

Under cover: grade myths

By Claire Koehler

While your friends are busy being shocked by the tremendous difference between their high school and college GPA, you, my dear first semester Johns Hopkins freshman, will be busy deciding what dress to wear to that frat party.

Not to make it sound like a cakewalk, because nothing about Hopkins can be considered a cakewalk, but you will not be nearly as stressed out as freshmen at the Ivies and other 'competitive institutions' because of a wonderful thing called covered grades.

Covered grades will be your best friend first semester. They will allow you to figure out how much time you need to study, better yet how to study, and how to balance extracurricular activities and academics without worrying about getting all A's — which you shouldn't worry too much about anyway because it won't happen.

According to the Office of Academic Advising, the covered grade policy was instituted 34 years ago at the request of students. It was felt that it would be beneficial for students to have a semester in which to explore without fear of consequences to their GPA. Today the first semester covered grades policy is probably one of the best-selling points

of Hopkins. Where else do you get such a 'break?' Covered grades, however, are not a reason to slack off. "Forget studying, party on!" should not be your attitude. Because while your grades are covered, you do still have grades. Pardon moi? Let me explain.

After first semester you'll pay a visit to your academic advisor. He or she will show you your transcript with a list of courses and hopefully five S's next to them in the grade space. These S's stand for satisfactory. They symbolize a letter grade from A to C-. You could have five A's or five C-'s. It doesn't matter because on your transcript, they are all still shown as S's.

Get below a C- and you'll receive a dreaded U, or an unsatisfactory grade mark. For first semester you'll still receive credit for your U course as long as the covered grade is a D or D+, but this rule doesn't apply in subsequent semesters. Subsequent semesters? Yes, you can take one course in each successive semester of your Hopkins career as S/U instead of taking it for a regular letter grade. "Party on!"

However, just because odds no one besides your professor and academic advisor will actually see that C from Calculus I doesn't mean you should slack off and aim for a C. Why not?

Because not doing any work in Calc I will hurt you big time second semester when you take Calc II for a letter grade. Believe me, it is not a good idea to plan on 'just getting by' in any math, science or foreign language class first semester, because it will come back to haunt you.

Now, I'm not suggesting you study to the point of becoming a library rat, but do study. Furthermore, you have to have at least a 2.0 GPA covered grades or no covered grades in order to be in good standing with the University and avoid academic probation (AcPro).

In regards to your future med or law school goals, admissions counselors won't look at you like you have two heads when they see all these S's on your transcript. The kind employees at the Registrar's Office have created a little guidebook to the Hopkins transcript, which explains our weird and wonderful first semester grading policy.

So go out and have fun. Just don't forget to hit up the library, too. It's actually known as quite the hot party spot on campus. After all, this is Hopkins, not party school USA, and, well, most of us wouldn't have it any other way.

MSE: a dungeon we hate to love

By Xiao-Bo Yuan

Looking back on the first year at Hopkins, it's surprising how many memories are set in the MSE Library—a late-night stumble through the moving shelves in D-Level, for instance, or a good chat with that rare attentive TA at Café Q. At a school some would call extremely decentralized, most of us share a nerdish core (whether we admit it or not), and there's no better place to embrace it than at the MSE.

The library can be daunting at first, especially since it seems to occupy a cultural microcosm all its own. Try to unzip a backpack or flap around in flip-flops on D-Level, and you'll get stares from bleary-eyed neighbors, some of whom look like they haven't seen sunlight since their Orientation. Get involved in a five-way debate about the merits of Paris Hilton on M-Level, however, and no one bats an eye.

But fear not, it gets less confusing. The six different levels of the MSE—labeled, from the top, Q, M, A, B, C, and D—all have their individual uses. The location of Café Q on Q-Level makes it function mainly as a caffeine dispenser.

Come finals time, the demand gets dizzying. Descend to M-Level, still on the ground floor, and you'll find the checkout and information counters, computers and copiers, and rows of periodicals, from literary quarterlies to scientific journals.

Many librarians have their offices on M-Level, and they are specialists in an array of disciplines who are more than willing to help you with research questions. If you, like me, have grown up with surly public school librarians whose definition of "help" is glaring toward the card catalogue with their good eye, you'll be pleasantly surprised by the knowledge and availability of the MSE staff.

The majority of the library's holdings are in the A through D levels; you'll be able to tell by maps near the elevators how subject matters are arranged by floor. D-level, for instance, houses literature and foreign language volumes. Most of the information a pre-med or engineer might need is on C-Level, where the medical and technical texts are. And for those who are more comfortable with pretty pictures, you'll find moving and talking ones in the multimedia sections of A-Level.

But since this is the 21st century we're talking about, you can browse holdings from all the Sheridan libraries, of which the MSE is only one, at <http://library.jhu.edu>.

Checking the catalogue and reserving books online only requires a simple search.

Materials from libraries not owned by Hopkins are also just clicks away. Need an obscure German novel only available at Moravia Park? Request it online, and it will be transported to the MSE for you to pick up in a few days' time.

Other more under-appreciated facets of the library Web site are the links to the numerous databases and research collec-

tions, accessible through the "Articles and More" section and categorized by subject. When you find yourself stumped at the beginning of a project, just taking a dip through these guides will spark ideas as to where to look.

The MSE Web site also provides online texts assigned by your professors, broken down by course number. Old exams are available through the electronics reserves section and have

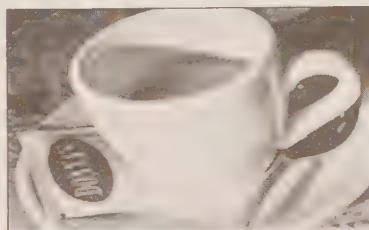
helped many a panicked student perk up before taking a test that would have otherwise been a mystery.

For more hardcore researchers (denoted by the spelling "researcherz"), the MSE also features special collections and rare manuscripts, hidden away in archives like parchments in "Indiana Jones." Although the Hopkins library system might get trounced in pure quantity by Harvard and others,

it has its share of treasures.

Like any academic library, the MSE takes a bit of hands-on, individual exploration before it starts feeling familiar. But soon you'll come to know where the comfortable chairs are, what spots have the best light and maybe, just maybe, the difference between blue and white labels.

It helps that, in the eighth hour of studying, you'll be easily amused. At worst, you'll get some work done.



coffee

donna's blend,

cappuccino, caffe latte, mocha (hot and iced), muffins, scones, egg wraps,

all carry out, **open at 6:30 am**

salads

italian and mediterranean

donna's **roasted vegetables**, fresh mozzarella and tomatoes,

roasted portabello mushrooms, our own **chicken salads**, caesar salads,

shrimp, salmon and flank steak all with fresh greens, house made

dressings served with Italian bread and olive oil. **all available for carry out.**

pizzas

four **cheese** voted best of

baltimore, over a dozen made to order **sandwiches** on sour dough breads

and flour tortillas with roasted red potatoes. our **quesadillas** are a

favorite. and **burgers**, our own vegetable, turkey or beef burger with fries

desserts

anytime, brownie with

ice cream, **chocolate mousse cake**, bread pudding, apple cranberry tart,

cream cheese tart, tiramisu, cookies, biscotti

pay with j-cash ~ ~ free wifi access coming sept 15



open everyday ~ corner of 31st and st paul streets 410 889-3410 www.donnas.com

At least get an A+ in scheduling

By Gina Callahan

The words "course registration" may conjure several images depending on your major, your year and your ability to cope in situations with the potential to be less enjoyable than walking to Olin Hall for a 9 a.m. class or finding out your new roommate is a country music fan.

For those looking to get into essentially large lecture courses, i.e., your basic pre-med or IR requirements, registering for the following semester's courses can be a simple process. There is plenty of room for you. You don't need to wake up with the roosters and with students taking physics. You visit the Registrar's homepage and a couple of clicks later ... bam, a full schedule.

Students in majors boasting smaller courses, Writing Seminars for example, have it a bit harder. Unfortunately, you may find that by the time you are ready to commit yourself to the next round of academic agony, the torture methods you've painstakingly selected are no longer available.

And underclassmen, on the bottom end of the registration hierarchy, may find that regardless of the size of the classes they are seeking to take, by the last day of registration — when everyone else has already assembled a schedule — the courses they want are full.

Whining aside, the Registrar's online system does have a lot going for it. Any upperclassman can fill you in with his or her own stories of frustration, but I think we'll all agree that sitting at your computer to sign up for courses beats an older system where students submitted handwritten forms to the Registrar's office and had to wait a few weeks while office staff entered course work by hand to learn what courses they had received.

Now you might be thinking, "I just got here, I still miss my mom, why do you insist on bringing up next semester's classes?"

Well, basically it's important to know about registration now if you end up loathing anything you're signed up for first semester and because second semester will be here faster than you can say "bye-bye satisfactory/unsatisfactory."

You should be familiar with the registration process because you used it to sign up for courses this summer. Remember how that worked because you'll be using the same system to register for spring semester courses in November and next fall's courses in April.

If you're interested, registration information for Intercession (the period in January when you can come back to campus for essentially free courses, to do research or to escape from your family) will be available in October or November.

Prior to registration dates, the Registrar will send out course catalogues and post course offerings online. You may then plan and organize your upcoming schedule.

In addition to speaking to friends about courses they've taken, running ideas by your advisor and reading the *News-Letter*, you also have the Academic Course Evaluation (ACE) Guide at your fingertips for feedback on particular courses. Available online at <http://www.jhu.edu/~registr/aceguide>, the guide presents student responses to surveys on course components like workload, interest, professor and presentation.

There are bound to be courses you'd like to take that are offered at the same time or at another inconvenient time, like the morning, but Hopkins has enough variety that you should be able to fit your major requirements in with some elective courses that really excite you.

You'll register for courses depending on your year. At 7 a.m. on your specified day, you will be allowed to log into your JHED account and can then sign up for courses. You'll be notified if classes are full right away, so you should have some form of a backup plan.

You may be placed on a waiting list for courses you can't get into, and often during the first week of class, professors will either take sympathy on students on the waiting list and just admit them or encourage them to hang around through the Add/Drop period to see if spots open up.

Add/Drop, a period when you may add and drop courses from your schedule, begins on the first day of a semester and ends several weeks into the term. (Note that Monday September 6th is a holiday and Add/Drop will take a hiatus). And while upperclassman get priority for initial registration, there is no such delineation after the semester starts. Associate Registrar Betsy Paul phrases it nicely when she says, "the early bird gets the worm."

During Add/Drop students may access the online system to change their schedule, but later there are more restrictions and changes must be made in person. Make sure to know these specific dates to avoid "W's" (for withdrawal) on your transcript and when adding a course that is full, and remember to get the professor's permission before heading to the Registrar's Office.

Online registration is never available for some courses, like those at other Hopkins divisions (Peabody for example), those that you are taking satisfactory/unsatisfactory, those that require a professor's permission and independent studies or research projects. If you are in doubt, head to the Registrar's Office with questions.

Another thing to keep in mind is the

limitation that "Holds" on your University account will cause in terms of changing your schedule. Your registration account may be stalled if you have not paid tuition, dealt with health insurance requirements or spoken with your appropriate academic or department advisor.

Check before registration or Add/Drop begins to make sure you are cleared to avoid catastrophic hindrances to getting your ideal schedule.

This entire process sounds compli-

cated and bureaucratic, but that's because it is. It's pretty rare for students to get the perfect schedule on the first try, so don't stress out if you need to drop a class for which you've already bought the books.

You're not alone and you will get it right ... and yeah, maybe after a bit of stressing. Overall though, it's worth the effort, and sometimes the wait, to get the set of courses that you want and certainly the course load that you can handle.

STAND-OUT PROFESSORS AND STELLAR COURSES

Maybe you've heard from jaded upperclassmen that most professors care more about their research than their students, that many TAs speak broken English, or that most classes end up sucking the enjoyment out of even your most beloved academic subjects.

Sure, depending on one's experiences, there may be a shred of merit to such statements, but there are also numerous exceptions to this supposed "rule" of Hopkins academics.

In order to give you a head's up on which classes epitomize the awesome professor/stimulating material combination, we here at the *News-Letter* have assembled our own mini-ACE guide.

Professor Ryang: Introduction to Kinship or The Anthropology of Love

If you're looking to learn a little more about the dynamics of various types of relationships, one of these classes is the place to go. One *News-Letter* staff member who took Intro to Kinship recommends the class. "Age-old assumptions about marriage, relationships, incest, the definition of family were all gleefully turned upside down by Professor Ryang, surely one of the downright more gleeful people on campus."

Professor Dixon, Lecturer Davies, and Lecturer Fleming: Rudiments of Fiction

For all you artsy, writer types (and even those of you who would rather figure out an equation than touch a novel), this is the class to take. It's a little more intense than IFP, plus the selectivity makes for a more, um, willing-to-learn classroom than some of the IFP section participants. The professors who teach this class display a passion for their craft and a true interest in their students. All in all, Rudiments of Fic-

tion is one of the best introductory level Writing Seminars offerings available.

Professor Noonberg: Intro to Abnormal Psychology

So it's not quite a "real" science, but it's not really full-blown humanities either. Abnormal Psych is a must for anyone who's remotely interested in Psychological and Brain Sciences. The material is more focused than the all-encompassing, general overview that is Intro Psych (which, by the way, is also a fantastic class). Plus, Dr. Noonberg is a very engaging, entertaining lecturer who has more than a handful of hilarious anecdotes about some of his experiences in the world of abnormal psychology.

Professor Heckman: Physics II

Since most of the *News-Letter* staff avoids anything involving science or math, we had to check with some of our engineering friends on this one. Although Physics II is obviously a difficult course, Professor Heckman makes the most of the material. He is fond of using demonstrations in class in order to expand upon the lectures — last year, he cooked a hot dog in class as an example of something involving electricity. One of our BME roommates raved about this particular experiment for days, so it must have been pretty neat.

So, freshmen, there you have it — some of the best classes and professors this fine institution has to offer. Sure, these may not all be easy A's (for that, just follow the packs of lacrosse players — they're the really big guys in the matching sweatsuits, if you haven't figured it out yet), but they are guaranteed to give you the most bang for your buck. And at forty grand a year, that should be pretty damn good.

— By News-Letter Staff

Gaining experience outside class

By Julianna Finelli

Four years may seem like a long time. But in reality, your college years will be over before you know it — it's never too early to begin planning for life after graduation.

This doesn't mean that you should forsake the curiosity, uncertainty and experimentation that characterize the college experience. You're not supposed to know at age 18 what you want to do with the rest of your life — most seniors are just as undecided as you are, if not more so.

Terms like "resume building," "research positions" and "career-related internships" sound intimidating at first, but they are all about one thing: experience. And experience is more than just a few words on paper — it's what shapes your perspectives, goals and, ultimately, your career decisions. Use

your freshman year to experiment, get informed and, most importantly, meet the people who can help you get the experience you want and need.

Your most valuable resources will be your professors. Whether you already have an interest in a particular field or are still testing the waters, professors will be able to enlighten you as to the practical aspects of their field — what kinds of jobs are available, what post-graduate schooling is necessary, what graduate and professional schools look for, etc.

Don't be afraid to chat with your professors after class or visit them during office hours — most would love to talk about their work with a young and aspiring student like yourself. And as Hopkins is a research university, the professors here

conduct their own research, making them very current and knowledgeable mentors.

Hopkins' focus on research tends to spill over into the undergraduate student body. There is a strong emphasis on gaining research experience as an undergraduate, which may or may not be necessary depending on your career plans. Medical schools, for example, tend to value hospital clinical experience more than lab research.

If you are interested in a field that has a research component, such as one in the natural and social sciences, it is a good idea to experience the day-to-day life of a research scientist. The life of a research psychologist, for example, is quite different from that of a clinical therapist.

If you are interested in gaining re-

search experience, your most important resources are, again, your professors. The vast majority of students who take part in research do so under the direction and supervision of a professor, assisting with his or her own research work. Begin exploring your options by talking with your professors, or contact the department chair in your major for advice on where to get more information.

If you have absolutely no clue what you want to study at Hopkins ... welcome to the club. Even the guy who now seems dead-set on becoming a clinical microbiologist might develop an intense passion for film direction by junior year.

Experimentation in diverse fields is not only acceptable but actually encouraged by graduate and professional schools. It will also make your college experience that much more enriching. As long as you're proactive about gaining experience, your goals and career desires will naturally narrow.

If you do plan on pursuing post-graduate education, you will need to make sure you have the classes, experience and skills you'll need to be accepted into and succeed in your graduate career. In addition to your professors, the Office of Academic Advising and the Career Center will be an invaluable resource in helping you put your course work and resume in order. As a freshman, be sure to meet regularly with your academic advisor, and let him or her know if you're struggling or overwhelmed — as long as you successfully adjust to college life and establish a strong academic foundation, you'll be able to build upon it in any direction you choose.

The Career Center will likely advise you to get internship experience at some point in your college career. Undergraduates are in a unique position to receive experience and guidance from professionals, who love to help and advise aspiring students — once you graduate, you're just another working stiff looking for a job.

So take the time at some point during college to work side-by-side with a professional. Although internships are infamous for providing students with slave labor for meager wages, there are programs that offer grants to student interns. The advisors at the Career Center can give you information on how to apply.

As a freshman, you have your entire college career ahead of you, and plenty of time to decide on a career. Make good use of your time and be proactive about gaining learning experiences; in short, do something.

Whether it's hiking with the Outdoors Club or extracting DNA in a biology lab, it's a character-building, life-enriching experience that will not only be attractive to graduate and professional schools, but will help shape your life goals as well.

Take our advice and get yourself some advising

By Claire Koehler

Students in each class of Hopkins freshmen, for better or for worse, are all about doing well. That means nothing less than the best or, to the less astute, a 4.0 GPA. Their goal is to use the transcript they receive at the end of their four years to take them places that are both near and far. For many, Hopkins is a stepping stone, a necessary stop on the road to career success.

Perhaps that is why the advising programs here at our great institution cater so well to life after Hopkins. Our advisors recognize they are dealing with highly motivated and talented individuals who have anything but mediocre plans for their future. Thankfully, these advisors are all about helping students reach these lofty goals.

Each of you lucky freshman was assigned an individual advisor this summer (ahh...summer). The Office of Academic Advising serves students in the School of Arts and Sciences, and the Office of Academic Affairs oversees the advising process for engineering students.

Freshmen in the School of Arts and Sciences enter Hopkins without a major and are advised by a general advisor in the Office of Academic Advising until they declare. The majority of Engineering students declare their major before arrival at Hopkins and already have a department-specific faculty advisor.

Your advisor is a great resource. He

or she will help you finalize your class schedule, advise you on such important things as time management, and generally make sure you're traveling down the path to success.

The study abroad advisor, Dr. Ruth Aranow, works in the Office of Academic Advising and possesses a wealth of knowledge. Don't neglect to visit her as soon as you decide studying abroad is a possibility.

In addition, a plethora of tutoring services for both engineers and Arts and Sciences students is run through the Office of Academic Advising. Like a hidden treasure, tutors here at Hopkins are worth taking the effort to find. There are individual tutors, group tutors, study consultants and a group study hall available.

I can't emphasize enough how beneficial these can be, especially first semester when you're still in shock over how "this is so not high school." I got an individual tutor for Intermediate French, and it was one of the best experiences of my memorable first semester.

After first semester, when you're feeling at least a little settled in, it's time to discover the wealth of resources not more than five feet from Office of Academic Advising. The Office of Pre-Professional Advising. Headed by Mary Savage, the office serves all those students interested in the big two: medicine and law. Hopkins has acceptance rates that are nothing short of amazing: 99 percent for law school

last year! This office has individual tutoring as well as various group sessions throughout the year. According to the pre-professional advisors, it is never too early to start planning, so take a break from hitting the books and go pay them a visit. Their help will be invaluable when you start the dreaded application process in a few years.

If you are an Arts and Sciences student, before you are assigned an individual advisor in your major, you are encouraged to direct any questions to a department's open advisor, a professor who is available to advise students thinking about the particular major. He or she can help you decide if English or Neuroscience would be a more appropriate major. For me, it was definitely English, and only one little meeting with the departmental advisors was necessary to figure this one out.

Students in the School of Arts and Sciences declare a major at the end of freshman year or the beginning of sophomore year, and they are then assigned a specific advisor within a particular major.

This individual takes care of all of the duties your general advisor held freshman year and generally acts in your best interests, helping you graduate in four years with a major that's sure to impress your parents (especially if you're going for that Neuroscience).

Good luck!

Enjoying your doodles more than the class? Try an art class at MICA

By Melissa Artnak

With a Hopkins schedule filled with the likes of Chemistry and Calculus, opportunities for creative outlets may seem rare, or even nonexistent. But believe it or not, it is possible to throw some pottery or paint a masterpiece somewhere in between 8 a.m. section and afternoon lab. Although Hopkins does not offer courses in the fine arts, we do have an Academic Cooperative Program with our neighbors at the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA).

The purpose of this program is to allow Hopkins students the opportunity to take one three-credit daytime course at MICA per semester. The class must be taken for a grade and credit — none of this Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory stuff here, you've got to be serious about your artistic endeavors. The grade received in the MICA class will appear on your transcript and will be part of your overall academic record here at Hopkins.

There are a variety of classes available at MICA that cater to every imaginable artistic interest, from sculpture to drawing and everything in between. One glance at the course catalogue will show you classes such as Sewing Workshop, Masks and Headdresses, Beads: Building Surface and Form, and Portraiture.

Obviously, just like in any department at Hopkins, you'll have to take introductory level courses and fulfill prerequisites before enrolling in these more advanced classes.

Unfortunately, the process of signing up for a cross-registration class is not quite as simple as Hopkins registration — in fact, it might make angrily sitting at your computer on the registrar site in the early morning seem like a cakewalk. In order to take a class at MICA, you need approval from both your academic advisor and assistant dean.

Competition for taking these classes is also pretty intense. MICA undergraduates obviously get the priority when registering for classes, so there's usually room for about 12-15 Hopkins students per semester to take a course. Freshman will have to wait a year before taking a MICA class because this program is exclusively for sophomores, juniors and seniors.

Don't let these tiny bumps in the road stop you from fulfilling your artistic dreams, however. It's all worth it for the amazing opportunity to study at MICA. One of the nation's premiere art colleges, MICA is the oldest of its kind, having been established in 1826.

There are a little under 1,500 undergraduates currently enrolled at MICA,

which makes for small classes and an intimate atmosphere. The student body at MICA is diverse and very dedicated to their passion for the arts, so you are guaranteed to meet some cool people with unique interests if you venture into a MICA classroom.

Many of the professors at MICA have won the most prestigious awards in the art community and have impressive experience in their

fields. For example, Grace Hartigan, a professor in the painting department, is one of the leaders in the abstract painting movement and has worked with other artists such as Jackson Pollock and Franz Klein.

Or if you're a comic book fanatic (and at Hopkins, I know there's more than a few of you), you might want to look into the opportunity to study under Jose Villarrubia, a professor in the illustration

department, who also works as an artist and inker for Marvel Comics.

The next time you feel tired of the monotony of memorizing formulas and reading dull textbooks, consider this opportunity to unleash your inner Picasso, and bring a whole new meaning to the Hopkins School of Arts and Crafts.

MICA is located at 1300 Mount Royal Ave. The MICA Registrar's Office can be contacted at (410) 225-2234.

Music for the masses at Peabody Conservatory

By Emily Nalven and Gina Callahan

A short shuttle ride from the Homewood Campus, the Peabody Institute, a division of Johns Hopkins and one of the world's premier music conservatories, lies nestled in the historic Mt. Vernon section of Baltimore.

Peabody offers both a degree-granting conservatory for aspiring music professionals and a preparatory school for lovers of the arts of any age or skill level. Degrees awarded at Peabody include a bachelor's and master's in music, and a doctorate in musical arts.

The bachelor's track is a four-year program and participating students may major in keyboard and orchestral instruments, guitar, voice, jazz and composition.

In addition to the intense daily practice associated with the majors, the Conservatory's over 600 students are required to take liberal arts courses emphasizing music, art and culture.

Peabody students can also receive a Performer's Certificate, which is similar to the bachelor's program, but is a three-year program without the liberal arts component.

Students at Peabody may cross-register for courses at the Homewood campus and Hopkins students, so long as they sufficiently audition, may take courses at the Conservatory.

Additionally, students can enroll in a double-degree program and be considered full-time students at both schools. This is a demanding program that averages only five students per year.



NATE BATES/NEWS-LETTER

For your inner musician, accepted Hopkins students can take courses at the Peabody Conservatory, located in the Mount Vernon section of Baltimore.

Typical students in the double-degree program take 30 credits a semester (compared to the average of 15 at the School of Arts and Sciences) and manage a solo repertoire. Though it takes some effort to balance coursework at both schools, it helps that some requirements at Peabody double as requirements at Homewood and vice versa.

While professors at Homewood receive countless awards and recognition from the academic community, most students don't read of their groundbreaking achievements unless they want extra credit. This is a sharp

contrast to Peabody, where most students own their professors' CDs.

Name-dropping of Peabody faculty includes Leon Fleischer, Manuel Barueco, John Shirley Quirk and Phyllis Bryn Julsen. These professors are on the radio, and they eat lunch in the Peabody cafeteria.

The experience of a Peabody student and a Hopkins undergraduate are very different, but they need not be exclusive of each other.

Diversity of interest is never a bad thing, especially if it means adding a bit of musical flavor to your Hopkins experience.



INTERESTED IN MATH?

INCREASE YOUR JOB
MARKET POTENTIAL

MATHEMATICS
J π U

Be a Math Major or Double Major!
Apply to the BA/MA Program!

Math Major Requirements

- Calculus I, II, and III.
- 401 and one other term of algebra, either 110.204 or 110.402.
(110.201 Linear Algebra does not satisfy this requirement.)
- 110.405 and one other term of analysis chosen from 110.311, 110.406, 110.417, 110.421, 110.439, and 110.443.
- Two one-term of courses chosen from 110.201, 110.204, and mathematics courses at the 300-level or above.
- Two terms in any one area of applications of mathematics, or other appropriate advanced courses as approved by the Director of Undergraduate Studies

*Don't forget you can double count
courses toward your double major*

How to Apply

To declare a math major, see the Mathematics Director of Undergraduate Studies in 412 Krieger Hall or Academic Advising on the third floor of Garland Hall

B.A./M.A. Program Requirements

In Addition to B.A. Requirements:

- Completion of course work (at the University or elsewhere) in algebra, analysis, and topology at least equivalent to what is provided by 110.311, 110.401-402, 110.405-406, and 110.413
- Completion, while resident at the University, of one of the basic graduate sequences, 110.601-602, 100.605-607; demonstration of a deeper understanding of the area of mathematics covered by that course by passing one qualifying examination
- At least two other terms of mathematics courses at the 400-level or above
- A reading knowledge of French, German, or Russian, to be demonstrated by passing an examination given in the Department of Mathematics.

For candidates for the B.A./M.A. degree, at least a 3.0 average in the 400-level mathematics courses taken while resident at the University

How to Apply

- Paper applications must be submitted prior to the end of your junior year
- Applications and instructions can be obtained in 404 Krieger Hall

"If you get arrested because you didn't dump the beer out like you should have, call me."
— Lt. Steven Ossmus, Hopkins Security

DISTRACTIONS

COVER-LETTER

N-L

Baltimore for dummies: the inside scoop on your new hometown



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

We've got crabs, we've got drugs, and we've got self-esteem here in B'more.

By Gina Callahan

No, my dear froshies, you aren't in Kansas anymore. (And if that really is where you hail from, I certainly do apologize.) No, you're now in "Charm City," "Mobtown," and the "City that Reads." It's a port city and the largest the state of Maryland has to offer. It's a peculiar place called Baltimore... unless you were born here, in which case it's "Bawl-mer."

Now you may have heard a few things about Baltimore. There are those heroin and gonorrhea statistics roaming around. Or maybe you've heard about our kitschy Hampden neighborhood, where beehive hairdos and the word "hon" are still socially acceptable. Our reputation certainly precedes us, but regardless, I urge you to make up your own mind about your new home base and to get off IM and off campus to see a bit more of it before you do.

To help you become more familiar and intimate with the city you're now to call home, here's the scoop on the self-proclaimed "Greatest City in America."

The Basics

Crabcake-infested and row house-

lined Baltimore was founded in 1729 and named after its founders, the Barons Baltimore, the Britons who also established the Maryland Colony. Baltimore is located in northern Maryland, at the head of the Patapsco River near its mouth on the Chesapeake Bay. It occupies 81 square miles and lies adjacent to Baltimore County.

You were probably paying attention during your high school American history courses, so I don't have to tell you about the British bombardment of Baltimore's Fort McHenry in 1814 that inspired Francis Scott Key to pen the poem that would become "The Star-Spangled Banner."

And whether you were paying attention in class or not, you may not know that in 1904, the city encountered a catastrophic fire that engulfed 86 city blocks. Throughout the course of this year, the 100-year anniversary of the fire, there have been events celebrating the renaissance and rebuilding of the city post-fire.

Today you will find over 200 neighborhoods in Baltimore. The city's population, according to the 2000 census, is over 600,000, with African-Americans, at about 64 percent, and

whites, at 30 percent, being the most represented racial categories. In 1999, Baltimore's median household income was \$30,078, and 22.9 percent of residents lived beneath the poverty line.

Notable Names

Michael Phelps is not the only successful and well-known athlete to come out of Baltimore. Babe Ruth was born in 1895 on Baltimore's Emory Street, an address that is preserved as a museum for the baseball great. Ruth also lived on Hanover Street and West Conway Street, in a location that is now short centerfield at Oriole Park at Camden Yards.

Edgar Allan Poe wasn't born in Baltimore, but he lived here for a time, and it's probably safe to say that Baltimore Poe House and Museum is the most interesting thing on Amity Street in West Baltimore. The poet, whose death in Baltimore is attributed to everything from alcoholism to rabies, rests at Westminster Burying Ground at Fayette and Greene Streets.

Speaking of creepy, one can't list "Mobtown" natives without mentioning filmmaker John Waters. Perhaps most famous for his 1988 film *Hairspray*, the inspiration for the Broadway musical of the same name, "The Pope of Trash" and the "Baron of Bad Taste" got his start in local church basements.

Bit O'Current Events

When Baltimore City's mayor, Martin O'Malley (a Democrat who plays in an Irish rock band and has been head honcho since 1999) asks you if you believe, it's not Santa or the Easter Bunny to which he refers. O'Malley's administration is responsible for the "Believe" campaign, an advertising, community-based effort aimed at reducing drug trafficking, drug violence and drug use in Baltimore. Word of initiative is spread through buttons, t-shirts, bumper stickers and, more recently, a BelieveMobile. You won't have to be in Baltimore long before you'll see these things floating around.

And while we're on urban dilemmas, add Baltimore's school system to

the list. Not typically noted for its stellar performance, the school system now also is known for the budget crisis it experienced last school year that led to a near-collapse. Though the city eventually bailed out the school system, the system's financial problems are far from solved. Stay tuned.

For future reference, your local city news sources as a Baltimorean include our major daily, our weekly alternative and your basic variety of major station television affiliates.

Randomness

Baltimore ain't called the "City of Firsts" for nothing. In addition to boasting the first sugar refinery in the U.S., the first candy factory to produce licorice, and the first American umbrella factory, Baltimore has several transportation firsts — the first commercial electric street car line in the U.S. from Baltimore to Hampden, and the first railroad, the Baltimore and Ohio, for commercial transportation of passengers and freight. You'll probably find today's transportation system to be lacking, however. Tough luck, hon.

As "Monument City," Baltimore also holds the first monuments in the U.S. dedicated to Columbus and to George Washington.

And note to self, the first Ouija board was invented and patented by Isaac and William Fuld in B'more in 1892.

Now Baltimore is not Philly, it's no Boston, and it will never be New York. But it knows all of this, and if you accept it for what it is, you can have a fantastic four years here.

Emily Yoon is an area native and appreciates the charm of "Charm City."

"I think Baltimore is a very eclectic city with a lot of character," the sophomore said. "A lot of its neighborhoods have some sort of history behind them."

And for those new to the area, she encourages exploration. "I would say definitely check out some of the historic and artsy neighborhoods like Highlandtown and Mt. Vernon."

Charles Village has much to offer...

By Jeff Katzenstein

You can walk more than three blocks. Unfortunately, many Hopkins students don't, for some reason or another.

To such people, Ruby Tuesday's, at the end of the Homewood Apartments, is considered the end, like some sort of boundary gate covered with barbed wire and surrounded by security guards with guns telling you not to walk any further. Most students approach Calvert Street in much the same way. But much like sheltered Catholic schoolgirls, they're missing out. And they're throwing their money away.

However, before you can venture out into the streets like the rebel that you are, you should know a little bit about the area in question. The area of Charles Village covers much more ground, somewhat overlapping Waverly, an area

that many consider to begin about four blocks east of St. Paul Street.

Charles Village was originally devised in the 19th century as a first-class neighborhood because of its high ground and attractive views. Instead of townhouses and dorms, the area was once home to sprawling estates, including the Wyman holdings that became the Homewood campus.

However, before the turn of the century, a local developer purchased much of the land and the townhouses were built. Still, such houses were considered high-end and were home to moderately wealthy professionals.

Clearly, things have changed quite a bit. This year, after quite a struggle, the area will say goodbye to two blocks of townhouses to make way for commercial space. For freshmen, it will be a welcome change to the meager row of

retail and restaurant space that takes up the 3100 block of St. Paul Street. Much of what's there is expensive for the average college student and isn't that good, either (see info box). The biggest loss to Charles Village this year is the Royal Farms, which means that there's no longer an option for late-night subs, nachos or chicken.

A few blocks east of St. Paul, things are actually a little better in terms of quality and, in some cases, price (see info box). Not only is there better food and grocery shopping, but there's also a Blockbuster Video, Papa John's Pizza, FootAction and Dollar Store. Perhaps more importantly, there's a 7-11 on 33rd Street that will most likely attract a few more students this year, as it is the only 24-hour convenience store in the area.

In addition, Waverly has a weekly

farmers market on Saturday mornings all year. If you're not too hung over, it's worth the walk to the parking lot by the 7-11 to buy some fresh local produce.

While Charles Village has its few high points, it's almost a crime not to sample a bit of what Waverly has to offer. Just don't go too far down Greenmount at night, or you'll get mugged.

EAT IN CHARLES VILLAGE AND BEYOND

University Mini Mart (UniMini):

Is known for its excellent hot subs. A little pricey if you eat there all the time, though.

PJ's: Is the only other option other than CVP for thirsty students. Also has cheap pizza, burger and taco specials that aren't of the best quality, but provide enough bang for your buck.

CC Carryout: Serves a variety of American and Asian takeout meals. Most of the food is of average quality and, with a few exceptions, is a little pricey.

Sam's Bagels: Has a wide selection of bagels and sandwiches. The sandwiches are creative but overpriced.

Eddie's Market: Is a tiny grocery store that is also pretty expensive and doesn't have much variety. The deli sandwiches are decent, although overrated.

Charles Village Pub (CVP): Is packed on weekends and is a little cramped. Average bar food and good breakfasts. They serve alcohol, too.

Rocky Run: Has slightly above average American fare for lunch and dinner. Pretty much the same as Ruby Tuesday's, except with a bigger bar.

Donna's: Is trendier and a little more upscale, and has hit-or-miss food that is more expensive than most anything else on the block.

XandO: Is not pronounced "xando's," despite what people tell you. They have coffee, biscotti and sandwiches. Try the s'mores.

China Express: Don't be fooled by the name—this Chinese food isn't nearly as bad as Orient Express.

Giant: Only a block past Greenmount Avenue, this new supermarket is certainly deserving of its name. Expect to pay half of what Eddie's charges, with about ten times the selection.

Mama Lucia's: Better pizza than PJ's or Sam's, plus they have decent subs.

Thai Restaurant: Actually well-known as some of the best Thai food in Baltimore and only a block from 33rd Street.

The Real Deal Jamaican Carryout: That's right—Jamaican food. Check this place out and try some curried goat.

Waverly Crab: Actually serves some of the cheapest crabs in Baltimore.

...but B'more's got more

By Jed Borod

When Hopkins boasts about being an urban school, nobody's talking about Charles Village. Aside from a few quick places to eat, buy groceries, or rent movies, there's not much to do, and even the most dedicated student will eventually get bored and stop going to Subway.

Unfortunately, a number of the fun neighborhoods in Baltimore aren't accessible without a car or mastery of the city's public transportation options (trivia tidbit: Baltimore has a subway system that you'll never use). Never fear, freshmen, because there's still plenty to do in the Greatest City in America.

Hampden

If you don't know who John Waters is, don't tell anyone. Waters, the poet laureate of Baltimore's blue-collar heritage, has filmed numerous movies in Hampden, the neighborhood just east of Homewood campus. Hampden couldn't be easier to get to, which makes it a great place to explore if you don't have any money. Follow East University Parkway to Keswick to West 36th Street, or just call a security van and ask them to take you. That's right, free transportation.

The main drag in Hampden is West 36th Street, dubbed "The Avenue" by pretty much everyone. On The Avenue, check out Holy Frijoles or Mamie's for shockingly cheap food, or Galvanize for good and relatively affordable vintage clothing. Atomic Books is also an amazing source for weird gifts, CDs, and all the books you can't find at Barnes & Noble. Finally, before you head home for winter

break, be sure to check out Miracle on 34th St., where residents string together enough Christmas lights to block out the sun and top it off with a Christmas tree made of hubcaps. Happy holidays.

The Inner Harbor

A surprising number of people who swing through Baltimore gush enthusiastically about how great the city is after a two-hour visit. "The aquarium! And the Cheesecake Factory! And it's so clean!" If you have no idea what they're talking about, catch the Hopkins shuttle, hop off at the Peabody stop, and then walk down St. Paul to Pratt Street. The Inner Harbor has absolutely no local charm and not much in the way of interesting stuff to do, but the Baltimore Aquarium is nice, and the chain restaurants are good places to go if your parents are still convinced that Baltimore is the most dangerous place in North America.

Fells Point

OK, now the real harbor. Located a bit further down from the Inner Harbor, Fells Point will set you back about \$12 for cab fare, but it's worth every penny. A loose cluster of streets centered around North Broadway pack a huge number of bars, restaurants and stores into a tiny (and impossible to park in) area. For food, B.O.P. serves up the best pizza in Baltimore, and Burritos en Fuego has tasty Mexican food. If you like any type of music, you owe it to yourself to check out Soundgarden, a CD store that rivals Newbury Comics for selection and kills

it for prices. The Fells bar scene includes Max's Taphouse, with the largest selection of beer in Baltimore: over 60 on tap, including Natty Light. A word of caution, since I'm assuming most freshmen aren't 21: if you want to drink in Fells Point, you seriously need — for real, no novelty ID — to be 21. Even if you're underage, head down to Fells, grab some food and sit on the end of the pier staring into the harbor. Take that, Cheesecake Factory.

Advanced Placement: Canton, White Marsh, Lexington Market

These are all tough to get to if you don't have a car, but if your parents are visiting or a friend drives in for a visit, be sure to check them out. Canton has Sip & Bite, an awesome 24-hour dinner where everything that's not breakfast is really good.

Baltimore Raven Ray Lewis is also opening a barbecue restaurant in Canton, so if you like your ribs with double homicide, this is probably your place. White Marsh has a huge movie theater and an Ikea, so once you live off campus you can make sure that you have the same furniture as everyone else — every member of the class of 2005 was required to buy the same \$20 bookcase. Lexington Market is a great place to ruin your arteries, starting with a chili dog at the questionably named Polock Johnny's and moving on to the Berger bakery for some delicious Berger cookies.

You're a long way from Charles Village: the horrible pain in your chest is the feeling of freedom.

More than graffiti: Baltimore arts

By Jason Farber

For a city known more for its "Don't bother me, I'm crabby!" t-shirts than its cultural cognoscenti, it would be easy to assume that Baltimore's fine arts don't extend much further than Sisqo's "Thong Song" and purple Ravens face paint.

But dig deeper, and you will find that aside from ubiquitous pop songs parading the posterior and Sunday morning purple and black, Baltimore is home to an array of celebrated visual art, music and theater. For those new to the area, here are the basics of Charm City Culture 101:

The Baltimore Museum of Art

Located right in Hopkins' backyard, the Baltimore Museum of Art, which exhibits works by artists ranging from Rembrandt to Picasso, grants free admission to students. The most impressive wing of the museum, the Cone Collection, was donated by two wealthy unwed sisters, Claribel and Etta Cone. Under the tutelage of their friend, fellow Baltimorean Gertrude Stein, the Cone sisters began collecting contemporary art around the turn of the century and immediately befriended Pablo Picasso, who at the time was an impoverished young artist living in Paris. The sisters also developed a close friendship with Henri Matisse, another Parisian who is heavily featured in their collection.

Over the years, the Cone family became wealthier and wealthier through the textile industry, and the extra money manifested itself on the sisters' growing art collection. After Claribel passed away in 1929, Etta was given the sole responsibility of maintaining the collection, and was urged by museums such as New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art to bequeath the collection to a major established institution. Instead, Etta decided to bolster the art scene in the city she loved, and donated the collection to the relatively new Baltimore Museum of Art.

Today, the museum still derives much of its prestige from the Cone Collection — which has been valued at around \$1 billion — but also features a contemporary wing that is home to works by Jasper Johns, Jackson Pollock and Andy Warhol. The museum also has an outdoor sculpture garden, which hosts many concerts throughout the year and provides an aesthetically-pleasing walk to class for students living on the south side of campus.

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

Founded in 1916, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, or BSO, became the country's first orchestra to be estab-

lished as part of the municipal government. Though it was privatized in 1942, the orchestra maintained ties to the government — in 1987, during Soviet perestroika, the BSO served as ambassador when it became the first American orchestra to tour the USSR in 11 years.

Just as the Baltimore Museum of Art reached apotheosis through the patronage of the Cone sisters, the BSO owes Joseph Meyerhoff for its similar rise to greatness. Meyerhoff — another philanthropic Baltimorean who enjoyed supporting the arts — became the president of the BSO in 1965, and shared most of his 18-year tenure with visionary musical director Sergiu Comissiona.

Meyerhoff and Maestro Comissiona's presence is still felt today (the BSO plays most of their shows at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, and Comissiona is now conductor laureate), yet the BSO is far from living in the past. In 1987, the orchestra won its first Grammy Award for a recording of cello concertos featuring acclaimed soloist Yo-Yo Ma.

While continually adding to their prolific discography, the orchestra will be back for its 88th season this fall, with musical director Yuri Temirkanov blending a score of performances with popular musicians to beloved classical favorites.

The Hippodrome Theatre (at the France-Merrick Performing Arts Center)

Baltimore has always been a tough place for theater venues to stay afloat, and if walls could talk, those at the Hippodrome Theatre would most certainly concur. The beloved Baltimore mainstay reopened its curtains on Feb. 10, 2004, after having been closed since 1990. In the seven months since its opening, the Hippodrome has brought numerous Broadway shows to Eutaw Street, including *The Phantom of the Opera*, which opened on Aug. 11.

Since the Hippodrome Theatre's opening act on Nov. 23, 1914 — which included jugglers and four elephants — its history has been more depressing than *King Lear*.

The theater briefly closed during the Great Depression, and in 1949, the management decided that vaudeville was a thing of the past and that they would only show movies. A month later, due to suffering sales, they began doing vaudeville again, only to go back to movies full-time in 1951.

In 1964, the Hippodrome was turned back into a "legitimate theater," becoming the only venue of its kind in Baltimore. However, the theater had trouble attracting audiences during the

'70s and '80s, and wound up playing mostly "blaxploitation" and x-rated films.

After a \$65 million renovation financed by the Hippodrome Foundation, the state of Maryland, and media conglomerate Clear Channel, the Hippodrome Theatre at the France-Merrick Performing Arts Center has returned, once again providing legitimate theater

for the masses. Bringing a season full of its "Broadway in Baltimore" program — slated to include *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Oklahoma!* and *The Lion King* — the Hippodrome has created a haven for stage-starved Baltimoreans who thought they had witnessed the tragic denouement of the performing arts in Charm City.

Capital charms in Washington

By Carter Cramer

So you're sick of the frat parties, nauseated by the crowds of people in the Inner Harbor, and swear that if you spend one more Friday night at the Towson mall you'll crack? Well, join the club of Hopkins students who migrate to D.C. for the weekend.

Located a mere 40 miles from the Hopkins campus, the nation's capitol offers listless Baltimoreans a chance to experience an infinite number of dining options — from Ethiopian food to Sushi at Benni Hanna's — as well as shopping in Georgetown and historical sites galore.

While in town, history buffs might want to check out the Lincoln Memorial or Washington Monument, two of D.C.'s most famous attractions. In addition to visually assessing these sites, visitors can partake in info sessions led by the well-informed tour guides found at both the monument and memorial.

If politics are among your interests, a tour of the White House or the Supreme Court is a must, since these locations allow visitors a firsthand look at what it's like to be a high-ranking political official in the United States.

If shopping's your forte, D.C. and the surrounding areas have nearly every store you desire. In the immediate Georgetown area, shoppers can cruise the block, stopping in at Club Monaco, Ralph Lauren, Diesel and the four floors of retail heaven that is Georgetown Park, the large mall at the center of Georgetown.

In addition to big-name brands, Georgetown is home to several unique boutiques, like Commander Salamander, a funky store stocked with the latest in trendy attire.

Just a 15-minute cab ride or 20-minute Metro trip from Georgetown is Friendship Height's Mazza Galleria, which houses an array of upscale stores like Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue and Bloomingdale's.

If still in search of more shopping options in the D.C. area, a Metro ride to the West Falls Church stop and a 10-

minute cab ride will take you to Tysons Corner on the Virginia/D.C. border, a large mall containing such favorites as Lacoste, Versace, Coach and Burberry.

Foodies will also appreciate the options afforded to D.C. visitors, as the nation's capital is home to nearly quadruple the dining options available in Baltimore. Among the most renowned in the area are Sushi Toro, which has some of the freshest cuts of fish in the area, and the 1789 Restaurant, serving patrons American continental cuisine and a true dining experience.

So, how do you access all this fun?

The MARC train's Penn Line, which students can get to by hopping on the Homewood-JHMI shuttle that runs every half-hour during the week and hourly on the weekends, goes from Baltimore's Penn Station to D.C.'s Union Station for just \$7 each way. The MARC train, which runs hourly Monday through Friday, then brings you to D.C. in 45 minutes. After arriving at D.C.'s Union Station, visitors can access Georgetown and the surrounding suburbs by the Metro for just \$1.20 a trip, or by taxi, of which there are a plethora.

Though a fairly inexpensive mode of transportation, the MARC's shortcoming is that it runs only during the week, making Amtrak the weekend traveler's only public transportation option. The latter costs \$14 each way, and the last train back to Baltimore on the weekends is 11 p.m., then not again until 3 a.m.

Of course, the trip is made even easier if you have access to a car, in which case you can simply hop on route 95 and follow the signs to D.C., arriving in 45 minutes or fewer. So when you feel you've explored all there is in Baltimore, take heart: D.C. is literally around the corner! Whether you're seeking historical or political edification, greater shopping and dining options, or simply looking for something to do with your friends and family, D.C. is the perfect day trip destination to add some flavor to your college life.

Think Hampden, not Hamptons

Though not fashion central, Baltimore has great shopping venues for all types of consumers

By Carter Cramer

Though a far cry from the shoppers' haven that is New York City or Los Angeles, Baltimore does offer its shopaholic residents a fix for their addiction.

Whether you are a fashion-phobic repulsed by the thought of keeping up with the latest trends or someone who derives more pleasure from purchasing a pair of shoes than can possibly be healthy, the array of options afforded to Hopkins students is enough to satiate any type of shoppers' tastes, be he the practical type, the eclectic, rebellious shopper, or the fanatic.

For the most basic type of consumer — the pragmatist setting out to fulfill his or her yearly quotient of wardrobe staples like jeans, t-shirts, and sweaters — there are several local options.

Just 20 minutes from the Homewood campus is Towson Town Center, the most "complete" shopping experience available to the local Baltimorean. Composed of four expansive floors, this large mall houses both conventional and up-scale retail stores, from Wet Seal and Abercrombie and Fitch to Nordstrom and Coach. Moreover, this nearby shopping mecca is easily accessible by the free Collegetown Shuttle, which travels to and from the Hopkins campus several times each day.

If in the mood for a more urban and touristy shopping excursion, or simply livid from the fact that J-Crew is the only basic brand not found at Towson Town Center, head to the Inner Harbor Gallery shopping mall. Here, shoppers will find a bustling setting and a population of more out-of-towners than local residents, in addition to stores like Banana Republic and, yes, J-Crew. About a 15-minute taxi ride from campus, the Inner Harbor and its shopping options are best saved for family excursions or a day of leisurely shopping with friends, perhaps including a bite to eat at the nearby Cheesecake Factory overlooking the harbor.

For the more individualistic shopper — one who shops recreationally, cares slightly more about the clothes he or she wears, and is incessantly seeking that perfect vintage tee or funky, out-of-the-ordinary pair of shoes — there is Hampden, located only a few blocks from campus. Famed for its eclectic atmosphere, Hampden is to Baltimore — on a much smaller scale — what SoHo is to Manhattan: a funky area composed of vintage stores and '60s-style record shops.

Here, Hopkins students can browse the racks at Oh! Said Rose and Fat Elvis, two Hampden boutiques featuring clothes far more unique than those found at the local malls and sure to distinguish one from his peers.



ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

Hopkins grad Junkyong Song shops in Towson. Baltimore's not New York, but there are places to spend some cash.

Finally, for the more label-conscious, truly dedicated shopper — those for whom shopping is not only a hobby but also a form of exercise, therapy, and an integral part of daily life — there are a couple of offerings. Most locally is Nordstrom, located in Towson Town Center, which carries brands from Juicy Couture to Dolce and Gabbana and Kate Spade. Any fashion-obsessed student will sooner

or later make his or her way to this trendy department store for a quick designer fix. And, if searching for the perfect party dress or sleek suit, there's no better option close by.

However, if more accustomed to the likes of high-fashion brands like Escada, Fendi, and Gucci, fashionistas can make the 45-minute trek to Mazza Galleria in Chevy Chase, Maryland, home to ultra-trendy department stores like Neiman

Marcus and Saks Fifth Avenue. While in the area, be sure to check out the boutiques in Georgetown, only a 10-minute cab ride from the Galleria.

Whether shopping for basics, on the look-out for unique vintage fare, or intent on rounding up your Jimmy Choo shoe collection to an even number, Baltimore and greater Maryland have got the goods. And, if still dissatisfied, there's always the internet!

Your picks for local flicks

By Sarah Rivard

As is the case every year, some lucky kid on your floor will have a complete entertainment center equipped with a 32-inch television, a DVD player and Boss speakers. Everyone else will have a 14-inch computer monitor that all of their friends will gather around to watch DVDs. I can guarantee that after a week or two of watching DVDs on a tiny computer screen, you will be dying to get off campus and into a movie theatre. Not only does Baltimore have a great mix of movie theatres for all tastes and styles, many of them are right near by.

Rotunda Cinematheque

By far, the Rotunda is the closest movie theater. However, it only shows two movies at a time and, truth be told, they aren't always the greatest box office hits. But if you want to see a movie and don't want to go very far, this is

your best bet. Admission prices vary according to the day of the week: Monday through Thursday admission is \$6 all times, all shows, all patrons, and on Friday through Sunday admission is \$8 per person. Don't forget to bring cash, because credit cards and personal checks won't be accepted. For show times, call (410) 235-7595.

Senator Theatre

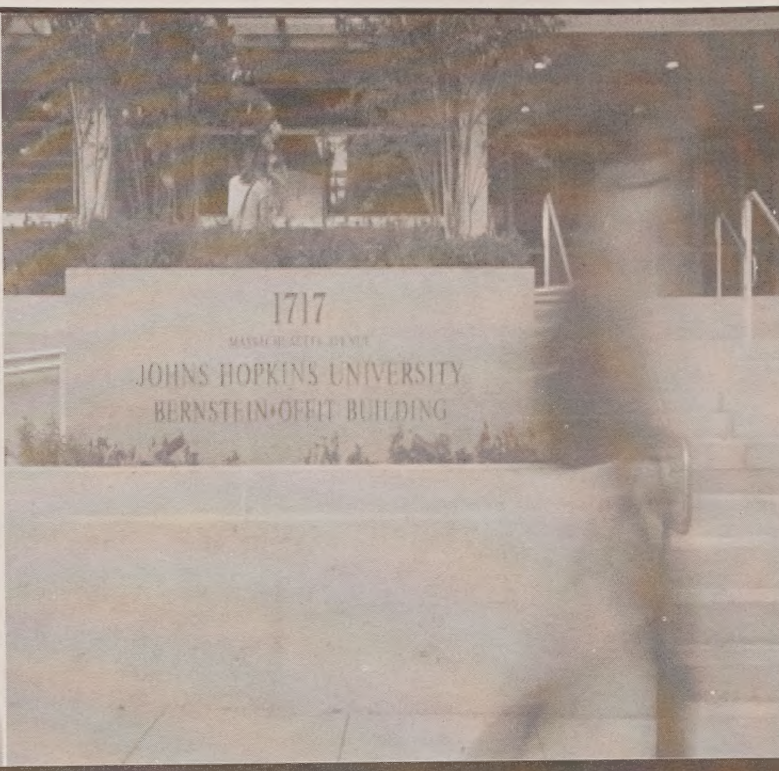
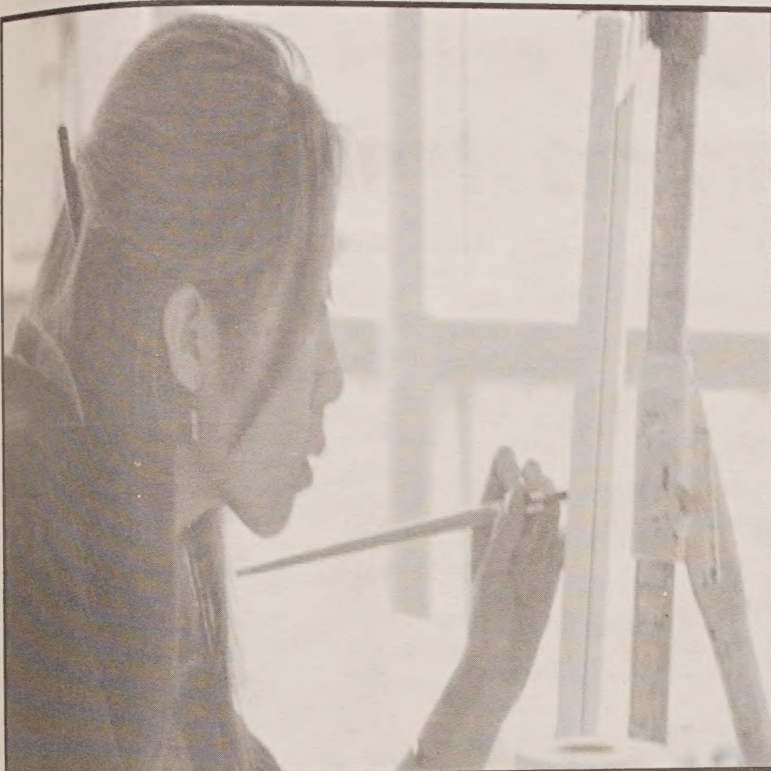
The Senator is a Baltimore classic listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Where else does the manager get up on stage to tell everyone to turn off their cell phones? This is the small town theater with only one screen in an enormous 900-seat Art Deco movie house. Located at 5904 York Rd., The Senator is only a cab ride away from Hopkins. Admission for all shows is \$8, and just like the Rotunda, they only accept cash. For more information call (410) 323-1989.

Charles Theatre

Right next to Penn Station (accessible via the JHMI shuttle) at 1711 N. Charles St. is the Charles Theatre. The Charles Theatre is another historic theater replete with all of the modern conveniences of a new theater. Not only do they feature Hollywood films, but they also showcase foreign films and cinema classics. There is no student discount, but matinees (before 6 p.m.) are \$6 a ticket, with regular admission at \$8 a ticket. For movie listings call (410) 727-FILM.

AMC Towson Commons 8

Located just a few blocks from the Towson mall at 435 York Rd., this theater is your best shot for the big budget action films. With eight screens and a great movie selection, you are bound to find a movie that suits you. They even offer student discounts, so remember your J-Card. Call (410) 825-5233 for show times.



The Johns Hopkins Undergraduate Fellowship in the Humanities

1717 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. in Washington, D.C.

Open Houses are September 9, 10, and 14.

The Johns Hopkins Undergraduate Fellowship in the Humanities gives exceptional sophomores, juniors, and seniors the opportunity to spend the spring semester living, studying, and interning in the nation's capital. Students earn 15 credits as they explore the cultural richness of the district, engage in intellectual discourse with peers, learn from leaders in the humanities, and gain valuable career experience.

Humanity fellows will:

- attend lectures, workshops, and symposia by Johns Hopkins faculty and other leaders in the humanities;
- intern with institutions such as the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian Museums, the National Archives, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, National Endowment for the Arts, the National Geographic Society, the Area Stage, and the Folger Shakespeare Library;
- complete research projects based on the internship, cultural experiences, and topics covered in class; and
- receive a stipend of \$800 to offset the expenses of living in the district.

To learn more about the Undergraduate Fellowship in the Humanities, attend the September 9, September 10 or September 14 Open House from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm in The Mattin Center, Room 160.

Applications are due by October 1.

JOHNS HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY

Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences
Advanced Academic Programs

1-800-847-3330 • www.jhu.edu/advanced/ugrad

Call 1-800-847-3330 or visit www.jhu.edu/advanced/ugrad for more information.

NEWS LETTER OFFICE

Open House

At the Gatehouse

Monday, Sept. 6

7 p.m.

Interested in Reporting? Photography?
Copy Reading? Graphic Design? Or are you
interested in Business or Advertising?

Come check us out! Free food!

<http://www.jhunewsletter.com>